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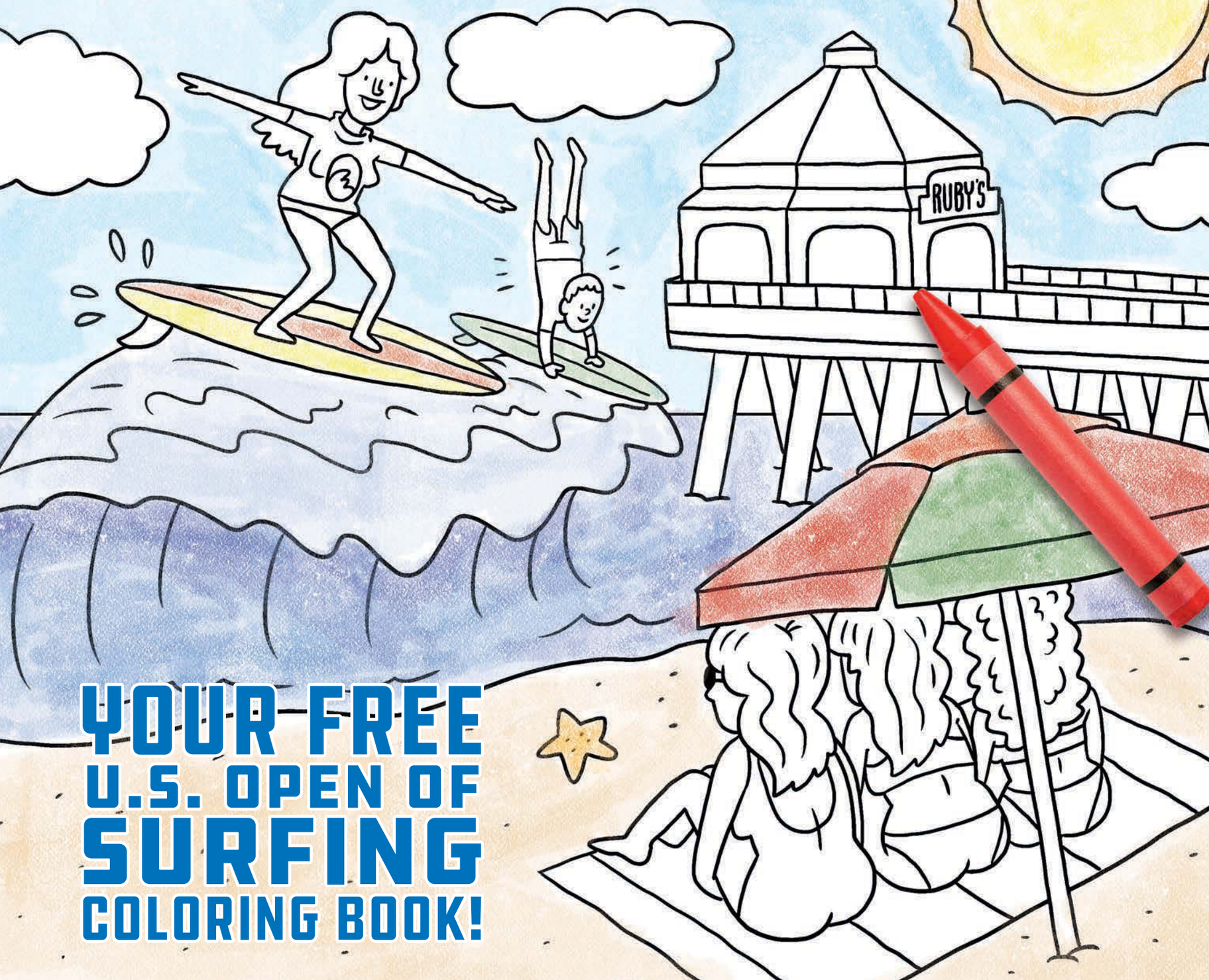

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DJ DIESEL (SHAQ) | THE MAGPIE SALUTE | SMASH MOUTH | DAVE MASON | LE YOUTH

THE MOTET | LITTLE HURRICANE | KAP SLAP | MARTIN JENSEN | LAWRENCE

LAST INTERNATIONALE | LUNA AURA | ETHAN TUCKER | TRISTEN | TROUBLE IN THE WIND

PATTON OSWALT | NICK SWARDSON | ARSENIO HALL | BRYAN CALLEN

SATURDAY 9/16

P!NK | MUSE

JANE'S ADDICTION | ICE CUBE | LOGIC | GARBAGE | THE WALLFLOWERS

MACHINE GUN KELLY | THE KNOCKS | TOAD THE WET SPROCKET | LANY

ERIC BURDON AND THE ANIMALS | LOST KINGS | THE HIM | THE TUBES | SAM SPARRO

EMILY WARREN | THE STONE FOXES | ONE DROP | STEEVIEWILD | DARENOTS

AGES AND AGES | ARMORS | JARED & THE MILL | LOST BEACH | JOSH ARBOUR | ZEAL LEVIN

SEBASTIAN MANISCALCO | NORM MACDONALD | MARIA BAMFORD | AL MADRIGAL | TAYLOR WILLIAMSON

SUNDAY 9/17

TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS

JASON DERULO | ALANIS MORISSETTE | JACKSON BROWNE | ANDY GRAMMER | +LIVE+

MILKY CHANCE | T-PAIN | PEPPER | TIMEFLIES | PETE YORN | TREVOR HALL

FISHBONE | THE SHADOWBOXERS | LED ZEPPELIN 2 | MOONSVILLE CCLLECTIVE

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up front

The County

06 | NEWS | Convicted bomber Bob Manning denies any role in Alex Odeh murder case. By Gabriel San Román
08 | ¡ASK A MEXICAN! | How much does it cost to sneak over the U.S.-Mexico border nowadays? By Gustavo Arellano
08 | HEY, YOU! | Tweaker slut? By Anonymous

Feature

09 | CULTURE | U.S. Open of Surfing coloring book! By Luke McGarry

in back

Calendar

15 | EVENTS | Things to do while disappearing at FYF Fest.

Food

18 | REVIEW | Legado Bar + Kitchen can be uneven, but the regulars don't mind. By Edwin Goei
18 | HOLE IN THE WALL | Tacos Los Reyes in Orange. By Gustavo Arellano
19 | EAT THIS NOW | The Bite Me at South Swell Ice Cream. By Gustavo Arellano
19 | DRINK OF THE WEEK | La Tarte Cerise at Hoparazzi Brewing Co. By Robert Flores
20 | LONG BEACH LUNCH | Company of Khan is the city's most eclectic pop-up dinner. By Sarah Bennett

Film

21 | PREVIEW | *Kuso*: More *Cannibal Holocaust* or *The Human Centipede*? By Aimee Murillo
22 | SPECIAL SCREENINGS | Get off the couch and go see something locally! By Matt Coker

Culture

23 | THEATER | New Swan Shakespeare Festival returns with *The Tempest* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. By Joel Beers
23 | TRENDZILLA | We go ceramics crazy. By Aimee Murillo

Music

24 | PROFILE | Beat Swap Meet celebrates nine years of unity through crate digging. By Nate Jackson
26 | PREVIEW | Big Monsta and the Sugar team up to revive OC rock. By Brittany Woolsey
27 | LOCALS ONLY | The Amoeba People practice science with guitars. By Brett Callwood

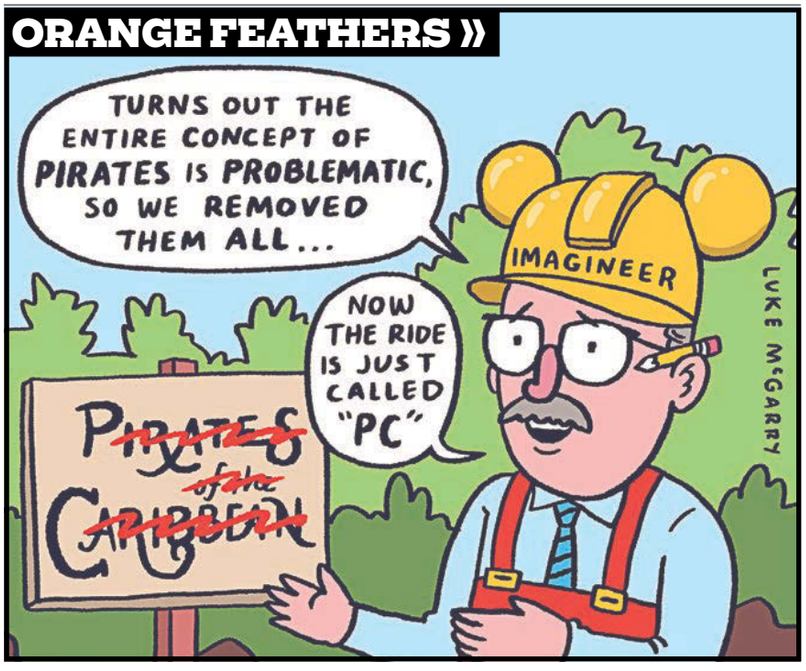
also

28 | CONCERT GUIDE
29 | SAVAGE LOVE | By Dan Savage
36 | TOKE OF THE WEEK | LIV Clear Disposable Vape Pen. By Robert Flores

on the cover

Illustration by Luke McGarry
Design by Dustin Ames

ORANGE FEATHERS »



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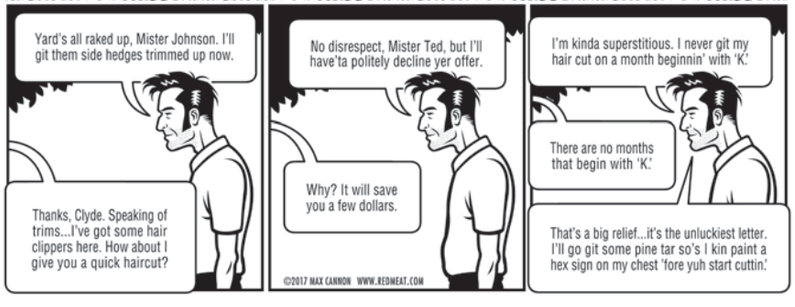
from the secret files of Max Cannon



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Transfer of Terror

Convicted murderer Robert Manning denies any role in Alex Odeh's bombing in federal lawsuit

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

The unsolved murder of Alex Odeh—a Palestinian-American activist killed in an Oct. 11, 1985, pipe bomb attack at his Santa Ana office—is getting renewed attention in an unlikely setting: Phoenix, Arizona. That's where Robert Manning sits in a federal prison cell decades after being convicted for the 1980 mail-bomb murder of Patricia Wilkerson, a Manhattan Beach secretary.

Manning was an activist with the Jewish Defense League (JDL), a militant group founded in 1968 by Rabbi Meir Kahane with the rally call of "every Jew a .22" that set off bombs targeting the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), the organization for which Odeh worked. Though no one knows exactly who assassinated Odeh, a 1988 *Village Voice* exposé noted law enforcement quickly focused its attention on three JDL associates: Keith Fuchs, Andy Green and Manning. The latter was collared in Israel for Wilkerson's murder, then extradited back to the United States, where he was convicted in 1994.

Though maintaining his innocence, Manning asked to serve his punishment in Israel, which the judge at the time refused. But in September 2015, the Department of Justice mysteriously approved his transfer request, only to revoke it two weeks later because of "additional information [that needed] to be reviewed and evaluated before we are authorized to make a decision."

He sued the United States government in court a year later, shortly after being denied parole in October 2016. And that's where the Odeh case comes in.

The suit claims the FBI has repeatedly approached Manning to try to obtain information on the Odeh bombing, citing a 2001 letter from now-retired agent Mary Hogan. "As the primary investigator in the Alex Odeh case, I have previously contacted you to solicit your assistance in this investigation," she wrote to Manning. "In my view, you have nothing to lose in providing any information you have relating to the . . . case and can only help yourself."

Manning claims to not have any information about the bombing and that he wasn't a JDL member, though media accounts have pegged him as one and he appears in a photo from JDL leader Irv Rubin's wedding in the 2016 documentary about the group, *Mother With a Gun*. "Given the widely known and fundamentally incorrect assumptions about him, Mr. Manning has exercised his right to refrain from communicating with the government about any substantive issues, including matters relating to the Odeh event," the suit reads.

Yet, a 2015 *Weekly* cover story (see "Man of Peace," Oct. 7, 2015) revealed agents had, indeed, questioned Manning in the Odeh case over the course of their investigation.

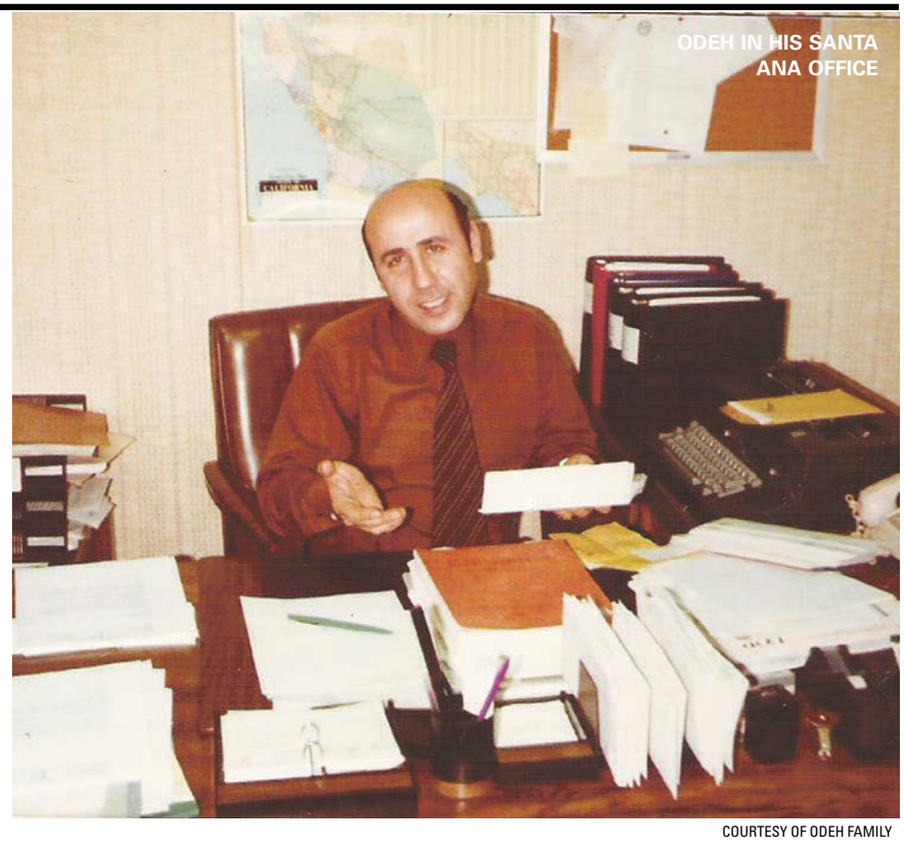
Citing pending litigation and an open investigation, the FBI declined to comment for this story. But Odeh's widow did.

"It's shocking to even think of letting Manning finish his sentence back home," says Norma Odeh. The Odeh family has long pinned responsibility on Manning for Alex's murder. "Is that fair that Alex is gone, but Manning's still there and thinking about going home? That's ridiculous."

Representing Manning is Paul Batista, a well-known New York trial attorney whose legal-thriller novels receive high-profile praise from television personalities such as Nancy Grace. Batista used his prolific writing skills last week to file a challenge to the government's recent move to dismiss the lawsuit. The DOJ's attorney countered in May that Manning has no standing to challenge its discretionary authority under the International Transfer of Offenders Act. In addition, the DOJ claims, the New York Southern District Courtroom where Batista filed the lawsuit is an improper venue since Manning was convicted in California and serves his sentence in Arizona.

"This ability to give and take away may have been viable in the France of Louis XVI," Batista responded. "It is not viable here." He also challenged the government's improper-venue argument. "Manning could be required to hopscotch endlessly around the country to file an action in a judicial district where he 'resides' or is physically located. The government, in other words, can engage in an endless shell game to evade Mr. Manning's claim."

The ADC, which Odeh helped to build as its western regional director, first learned of the Manning lawsuit earlier this year. "They're trying to distort the fact that he's a suspect" in the Odeh case, says Abed Ayoub, ADC's legal and policy director. "We are confident that the FBI will pursue this aggressively and he will face charges."



ODEH IN HIS SANTA ANA OFFICE

COURTESY OF ODEH FAMILY

The Odeh family wanted to attend Manning's parole hearing last October, but they weren't allowed because they had no direct connection to the Wilkerson case. But Patricia's daughter, Pamela Wilkerson, contacted them and spoke about their case at the hearing. "When I showed up, he realized that there's someone still around and invested in making sure he stays in prison," Wilkerson says. While Manning's suit describes him as confined to a wheelchair and nearly deaf, that's not who Wilkerson says she saw from less than 3 feet away in a small conference room. "He's a huge, strapping man who isn't in a wheelchair," she says. Manning pushed a walker, she adds, but insists "he isn't frail in any way whatsoever."

Regina Tapoohi, Israel's senior deputy to the State Attorney, and former U.S. Senator Carl Levin have signed letters of support for Manning (who holds dual U.S.-Israeli citizenship), arguing he deserves proper medical care in Israel, where he can be closer to his children and grandchildren. But Wilkerson, whose mother wasn't Manning's intended target, isn't sympathetic. "In my mother's case, a terrorist group—the JDL—was willing to accept money to murder somebody who had nothing to do with their cause," she says.

Batista has high hopes for his client's return to Israel. "If we prevail on the motion to dismiss, we will move for summary judgment to compel the transfer," the lawyer told the *Weekly*.

The prospect worries Wilkerson. "The idea of this being in the hands of a single judge scares me," she says. "William Ross, the man who paid the fee and asked for the murder, died in prison. Manning needs to do the same—and in a U.S. prison [because that's the country] where he committed the murder."

Jewish extremists hail Manning as a hero and rally for his return to Israel on online forums. And the JDL is making a comeback; members violently assaulted a Palestinian-American professor at a Washington, D.C., protest this year.

Meanwhile, the Odeh case grows colder by the day. "It's going to be 32 years, and nothing has been done," Norma says. "I keep hoping [that] somehow they [will] bring the people responsible for my husband's death to justice."

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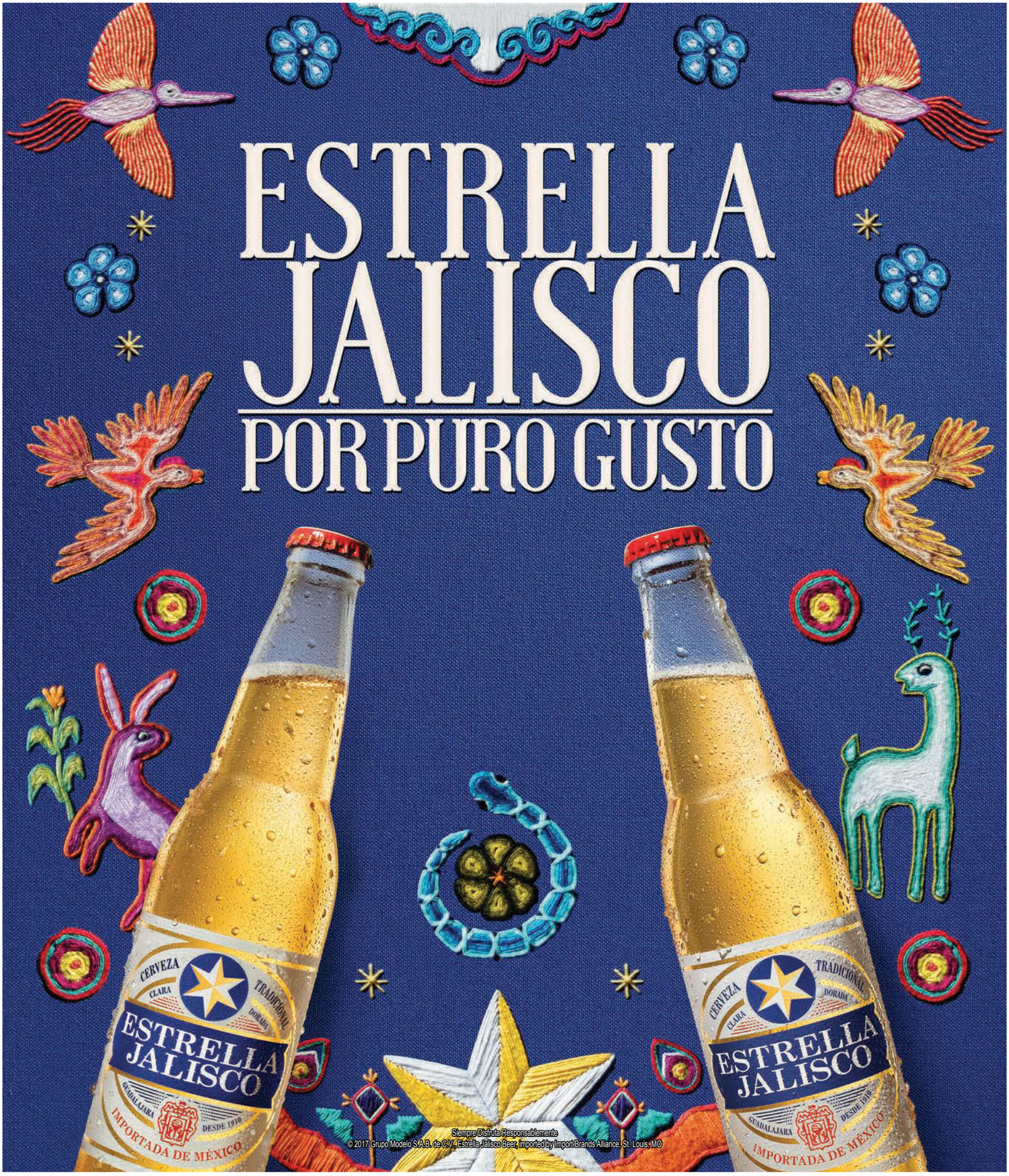
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¡ask a mexican!»

» GUSTAVO ARELLANO

DEAR MEXICAN: I'm not a huge soccer fan, but I always get excited about the World Cup. In preparation for this event next year, I wanted your opinion on who my wife and I should root for if the U.S. were to play Mexico. I'm a fourth-generation Mexican-American. Spanish was never spoken at home, but thanks to our amazing public school system, I rarely need a translator when I speak to Spanish-speaking parents (I'm an administrator at an amazing public school). My wife grew up speaking Spanish and was raised in a home that was culturally Mexican. We both feel comfortable participating in events that are very Mexican and very American. Last night, I asked my wife who she should root for if the U.S. played Mexico. She wasn't sure. I told her I wasn't sure either and that we should ask for your advice. What do you think? Who should we root for? Who would you root for? Who do you think your grandkids will root for?

Sueño Humido del Hombre Hispánico-Americano

DEAR WET DREAM OF THE *POCHO* MAN: I always root for the United States when it plays in Mexico, and Mexico when it faces off against the U.S. in *el Norte*, but only because I want to see the home fans in agony because I'm a *cabrón* like that. You can root for either side, though, because they're both going to flame out in the quarterfinals of *el Mundial* next year, anyway. About the only things fans can look forward on either side to is to see which player has enough *huevos* to kick Putin where Trump's lips left a giant *chupón*.

DEAR MEXICAN: I'm not searching for relationship advice, Mexican; just wondering why there is no love between Honduras and Mexico.

La Gordita

DEAR CHUBBY *CATRACHA*: Mexicans might despise Salvadorans and have no use for Guatemalans, but Hondurans? We play "*Sopa de Caracol*" at all our parties, don't we?

DEAR MEXICAN: My understanding, lo these many years, is that Mexicans cannot give up their Mexican citizenship. I understand that under Mexican law, a natural-born Mexican is never legally allowed to claim exclusive other citizenship and that Mexico will not recognize U.S. embassy legal process in Mexico on behalf of a Mexican naturalized as a U.S. citizen who is present in Mexico. Is that correct?

August in Austin

DEAR *GABACHO*: You're listening to too much Alex Jones. The Mexican Constitution says native-born Mexicans can never lose their *nationality*, which is just a fancy way for Mexico to claim more people subject to its authority—an important point we'll use before the New World Order tribunal in a couple of years to re-establish Aztlán.

DEAR MEXICAN: In 1990, some of my Mexican friends told me it cost $500 to come from Mexico with a coyote. Recently, a friend from Tamazunchale told me it now costs $2,500. How much of this money, paid to the coyotes, goes to Border Patrol Employees?

El Pollo Loco

DEAR *GABACHO*: Just $2,500? Try $5,000 to start, all thanks to Trump's immigration policies. And Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly had the gall to take credit for the jacked-up prices. That's like a big-game hunter saying the antelope over his fireplace worked extra-hard to get there.

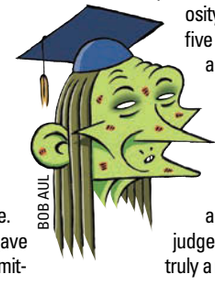
SPECIAL THANKS TO: Maricela and Daniel, two helpful Mexicans at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Orange who helped this Mexican find another Mexican's grave. May the Santo Niño de Atocha bless *ustedes* for your good work, and may you bury this Mexican with a bottle of mezcal when it's time for me to go to the great *DESMADRE* in the sky. . . .

ASK THE MEXICAN
at themexican@askamexican.net, be his fan on Facebook, follow him on Twitter, or ask him a video question at youtube.com/askamexicano!

HeyYou!

» ANONYMOUS

Bad Tenant



You are the little tweaker slut who took advantage of your aunt's ex-husband when he allegedly gave you permission to stay in his house. The cock-and-bull story you gave him about your renewed commitment to college was just to warm the former professor's heart, and you repaid his generosity by sqatting in his house for almost five months after he died, selling his stuff and trashing the place. After you were finally evicted this month, I discovered what you were really studying: prostitution and drugs, and you were fully immersed. When you appear on the earlier drug charges against you later this month, I hope the judge locks your butt up because you are truly a menace to society.

HEY, YOU! Send anonymous thanks, confessions or accusations—changing or deleting the names of the guilty and innocent—to "Hey, You!" c/o *OC Weekly*, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708, or email us at letters@ocweekly.com.

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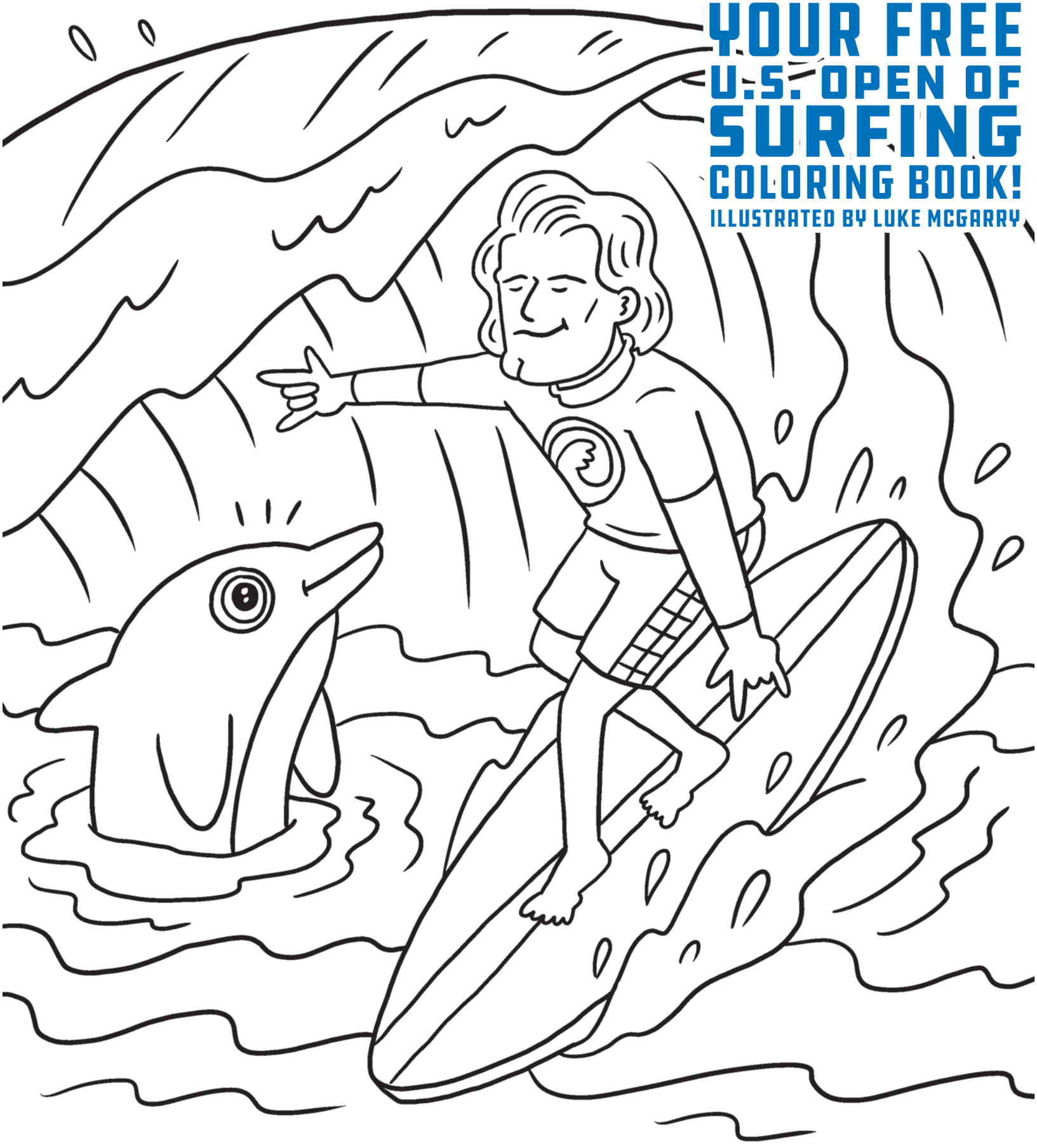
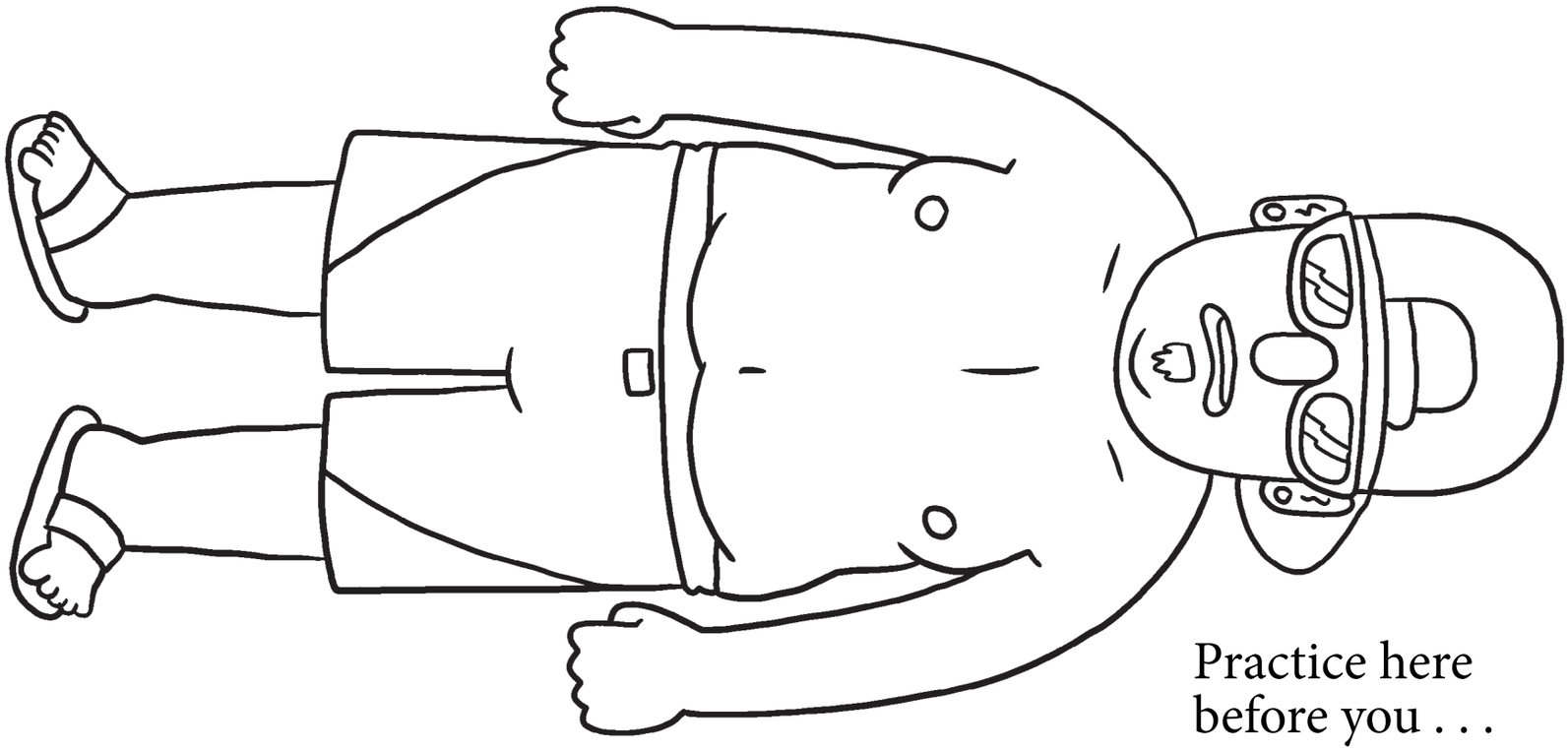
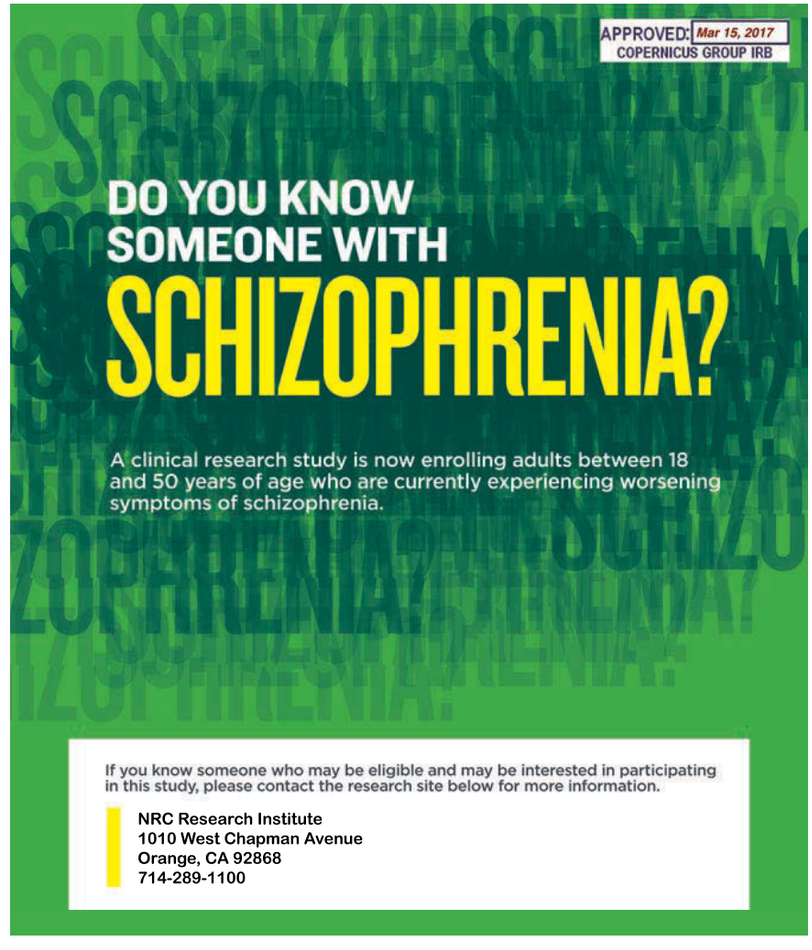


Color in the cool surfer!

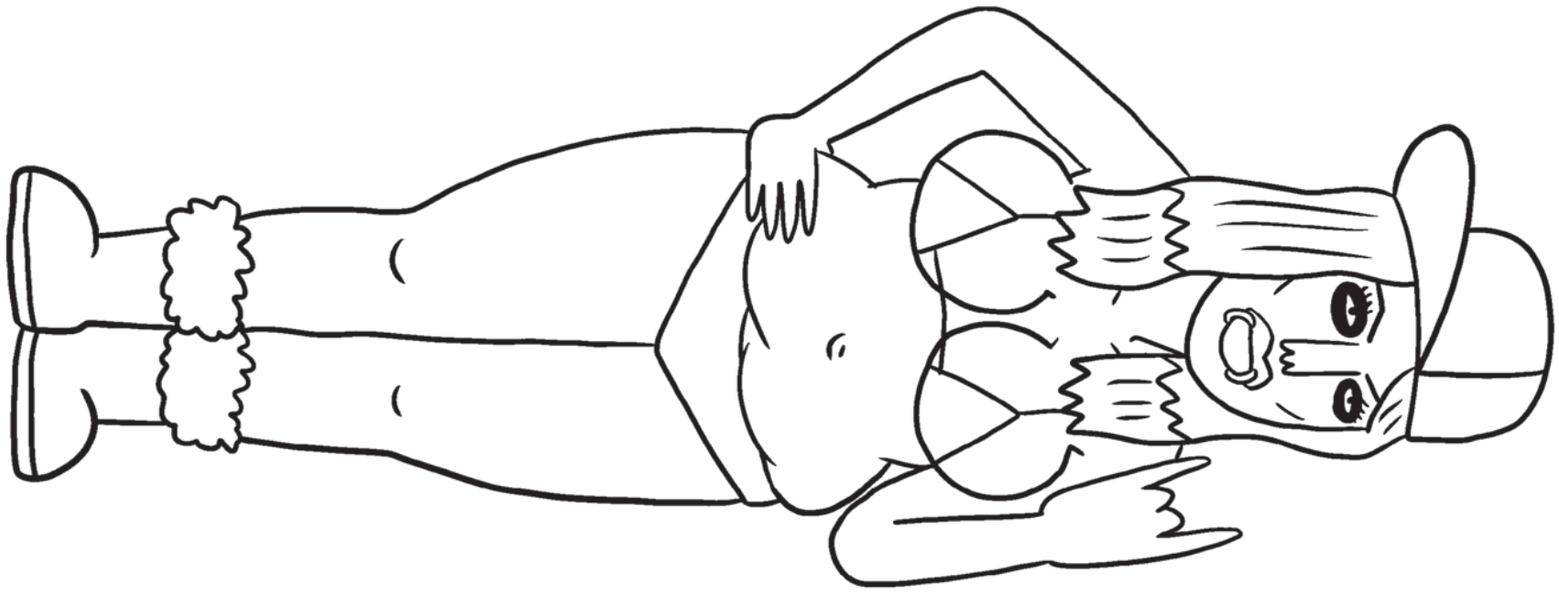
TATTOO YOUR OWN BRO



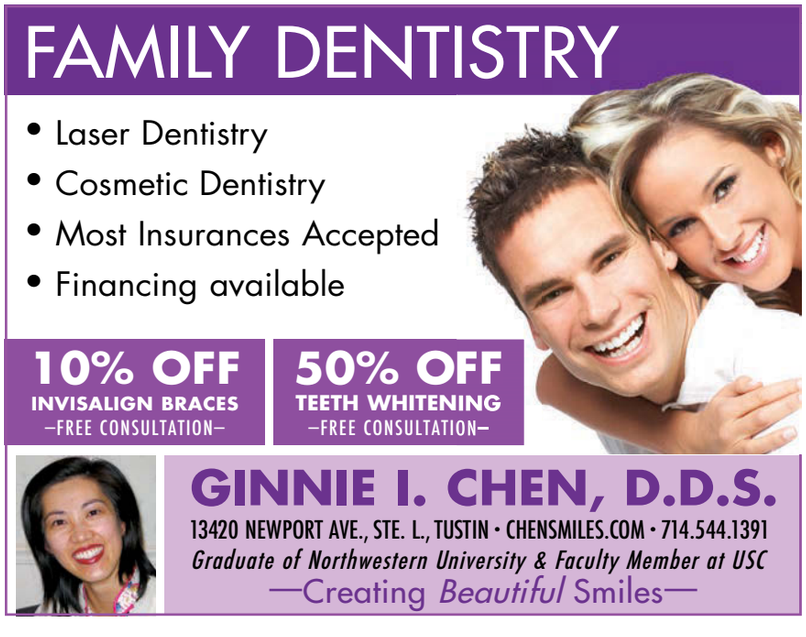
Practice here before you . . .



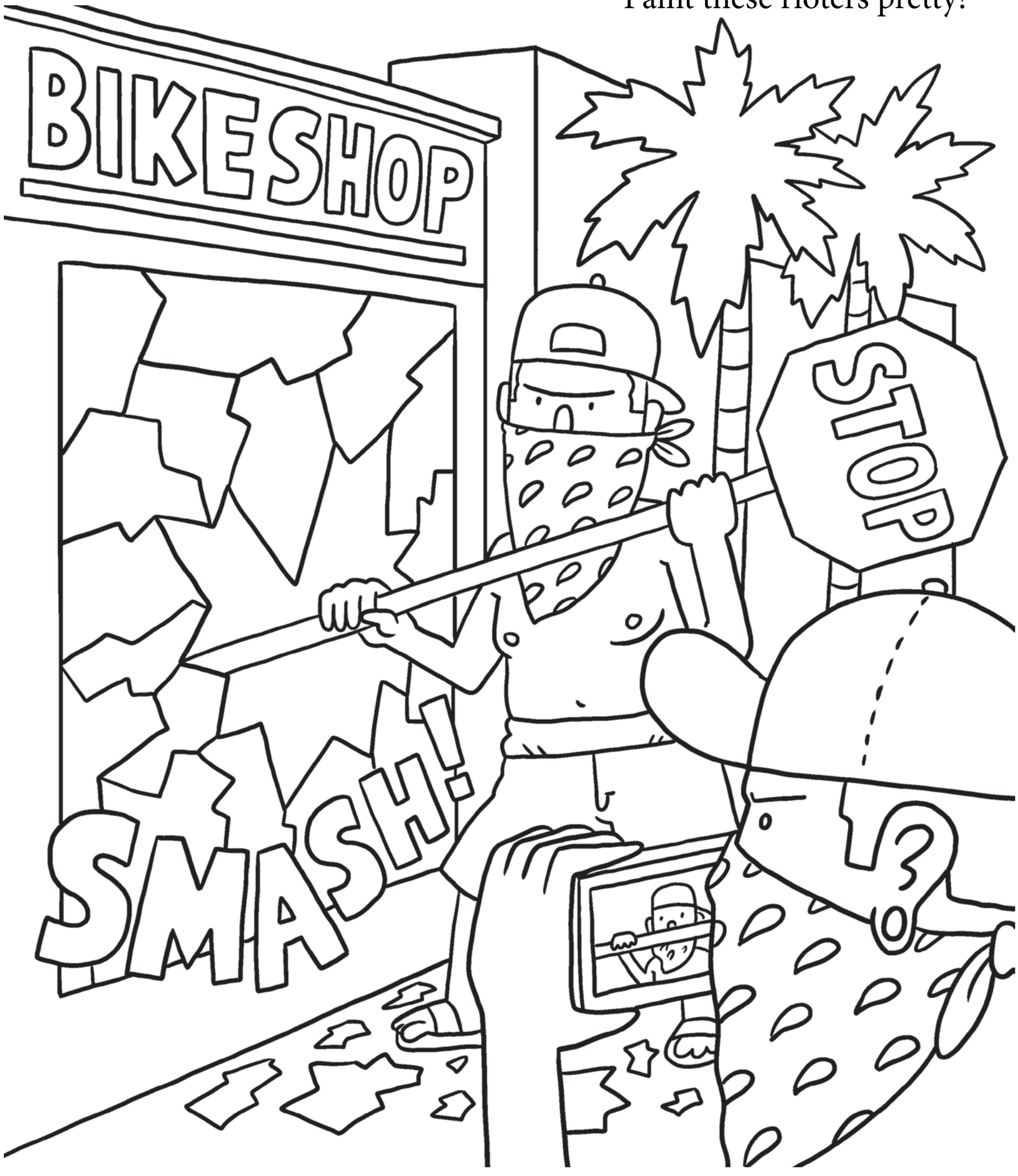
TATTOO YOUR OWN BROLETTE



. . . put it on yourself!



Paint these rioters pretty!



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WHO CAN IT BE NOW?

fri/07/21

[CONCERT]

MAN AT WORK
Colin Hay

While he was lead singer for '80s group Men At Work, Colin Hay gave the world outside of his native Melbourne a taste of his quirky songwriting chops and spunky stage presence. But by the mid-'80s, Hay had launched his own solo material and had trouble with substance abuse. Gradually, he built an audience playing shows at the Largo in Los Angeles and, from there, earned the love and adulation of fans worldwide. Despite the many shakeups in his life and career, the musician/poet has managed to reinvent himself as a singer/songwriter who deftly weaves song, storytelling, quips and sheer charisma into his performances. Far outpacing his '80s contemporaries, Hay's shows promise something unpredictable.

Colin Hay at the Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com. 8 p.m. $38. —AIMEE MURILLO

MORE » ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

[FESTIVAL]

Rudies, Come Through!
Ska-mic Con

The idea for this weekend's Ska-mic Con might've started as a simple play on words, given that San Diego's Comic-Con is attracting plenty of nerds. But judging by the strength of the lineup, Ska-mic Con's organizers are not messing around. This second-annual, two-day festival at Out of the Park Pizza in Anaheim Hills is stretching out like a slab of pizza dough, expanding into the parking lot to accommodate a ska nerd's dream: headliners Reel Big Fish and Less Than Jake, plus the Maxies, Codename: Rocky, Kill Lincoln, the Phenomenauts, GOGO13, Jelly of the Month Club, the Ziggens and many more. Hosted by the lifeline of the OC ska scene, Pocket Entertainment, the show restores faith in the grassroots nature of the genre that made it great before the '90s radio rush and continues to make it great well after its heyday—sorry, hornday.

Ska-mic Con at Out of the Park Pizza, 5638 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, (714) 777-4992; www.parksandrock.com. Noon; also Sat. $20-$140. —NATE JACKSON

sat/07/22

[THEATER]

Submitted for Your Approval
The Twilight Zone

STAGES presents its annual tour of *The Twilight Zone*, a perfect seasonal offering in a time when every day feels like the episode "Midnight Sun" (season 3, episode 10, 1961—look it up!). This year, the storefront theater stages adaptations of three of the most haunting—and most underrated—episodes of the series: "Nick of Time," written by *Twilight* master Richard Matheson, was one of the (in)famous William Shatner episodes, in which our hero grapples with the formidable power of his own psychology in a small-town diner. "The Old Man In the Cave" is a post-nuclear "Maple Street" groupthink confrontation, and "Dust" is an eerie Wild West vignette. Tonight's performance is the last, so if you miss this, you'll may well be consumed by a regret you're doomed to never fully comprehend . . . until you disappear ("King Nine Will Not Return," season 2, episode 1, 1960—look that up, too!).

The Twilight Zone at STAGEStheatre, 400 E. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, (714) 525-4494; www.stagesoc.org. 5 p.m. $20-$22. —CHRIS ZIEGLER

[FOOD & DRINK]

HAVE A NOSH
Sausage & Bierfest

We love a good sausage fest. And a beer fest, too. This weekend, the Phoenix Club in Anaheim pairs those two indulgences for what can only be anticipated as one hell of a tolle fest. This is Sausage & Bierfest, and for the modest cover charge of just $5, you can imbibe on hearty German beers, sample taps from local breweries, and guzzle down all the sausage you can handle. There's other German food to be had, as well, though vegetarians might be a bit out of luck. Meat. Beer. More meat. More beer. What a beautiful way to spend the day.

Sausage & Bierfest at the Phoenix Club, 1340 S. Sanderson Ave., Anaheim, (714) 563-4166; www.thephoenixclub.com. 6 p.m. $5. —ERIN DEWITT

MORE » ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

sun/07/23

[ART]

Curves, Curves, Curves

'Stark Beauty'

Staring at the contours and shadows along the horizon can be a tranquilizing experience. Edward Weston's famous landscape photography demonstrated that compositions focusing on manmade objects, vegetables and even naked bodies can evoke the same awe of nature that was typically relegated to photos of mountains, deserts, lakes, etc. The Bowers Museum features three sections of Weston's most iconic work. Today, you can also sit in on noted art historian Dr. Jonathan Spaulding's opening lecture on Weston and his work.

"Stark Beauty: The Photography of Edward Weston" at Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana, (714) 567-3600; www.bowers.org. 10 a.m. Through Sept. 17. $10-$15; children younger than 12, free; lecture tickets, $9-$12. —SCOTT FEINBLATT

[FLOAT TRIPS]

Wet and Wild

Sunday Funday Booze Cruise

Family float trips with your grandparents are nice; holiday cruise parties with kiddies running around the deck are cool, too. But an exclusively 21-and-over booze cruise to party and rage on? The best. Booze Cruise LBC grants adults a sweet escape from the world, one boat party at a time. Today's cruise celebrates Sunday in summertime, a relaxed ocean trip with bottle service, food and DJs playing music to dance to. Riding atop the *Grand Romance Riverboat*, a massive, three-level sternwheel riverboat, allows visitors the chance to view the ocean from numerous angles and move around comfortably. If a four-hour tour isn't a long enough getaway for ya, Booze Cruise LBC departs every month.

Sunday Funday Booze Cruise at *Grand Romance Riverboat*, 200 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, (562) 628-1600. 3 p.m. $30. 21+. —AIMEE MURILLO

mon/07/24

[FILM]

Loud and Fast

The New York Hardcore Chronicles Film

One of New York's less represented music scenes in cinema was its hardcore scene—that is, until singer/director Drew Stone decided to change that with his documentary *The New York Hardcore Chronicles Film* Featuring more than 60 interviews with members from Agnostic Front, Biohazard, Youth of Today, Sick of It All and others, the film's episodic format allows viewers into the adrenaline-rushed, high-volume spaces where youths and older fans rage in unison and community.

The New York Hardcore Chronicles Film at the Art Theatre, 2025 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, (562) 438-5435; www.arttheatrelongbeach.org. 9 p.m. $15. —AIMEE MURILLO

tue/07/25

[SURF]

Gidget Gets Her Due

'Women of Surf'

Women's career pathways as professional athletes have been a struggle no matter the sport, including surfing. To honor those women who were early pioneers in the field, the Huntington Beach Art Center exhibits "Women of Surfing: Art & History" to coincide with the start of the U.S. Open of Surfing. The showcase includes surfing-related art, historic surfing artifacts and photographs that illustrate the efforts for equal recognition in the sport. These efforts, it should be noted, are relevant today, with men's magazines and sponsors rating female surfers on their appearance more than how well they shred.

"Women of Surf: Art & History" at Huntington Beach Art Center, 538 Main St., Huntington Beach, (714) 374-1650; www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org. Noon. Through Sept. 2. Free. —HEATHER MCCOY

wed/07/26

[FILM]

SO BAD IT'S GREAT

Troma Double Feature

The Frida Cinema presents the final installment of its Directors Series highlighting the Troma films of director Lloyd Kaufman with a bang-up double feature tinged with Shakespeare. Starting things off is Kaufman's 1996 twist on the Bard, *Tromeo & Juliet*, set in Manhattan and narrated by Lemmy of Motörhead. The film stays fairly faithful to the original text, with the addition of Troma-styled sex, violence, a giant pig creature and a wildly different ending, of course. The second feature is Kaufman's 1999 tribute to all things Troma, *Terror Firmer*, and stars Kaufman himself as an insane, blind filmmaker trying to make a low-budget movie while his cast and crew are attacked by a sexually confl icted, bomb-toting serial killer. Grab your favorite retro candy and popcorn and settle in for these raunchy, ridiculous blasts from the past!

Troma Double Feature: *Tromeo & Juliet* and *Terror Firmer* at the Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana, (714) 285-9422; thefridacinema.org. 8 p.m.; also Thurs., July 27. $10.—SR DAVIES

[ART]

Check These Out

LCAD BFA All Majors Summer Exhibition

While school's out, consider this extracurricular activity your summer education. Check out Laguna College Art + Design's (LCAD) BFA All Majors Summer Exhibition, which exemplifies the best of the school's current crop of art pupils, both undergrad and post-bachelor's. All mediums are represented here, from figurative illustration and digital arts to painting, animation, game art, graphic design and more. The annual juried show not only displays the talents of LCAD's next generation of artist-designers, but it also exhibits the growth potential achievable through this fine art school's pedagogy. Fellow art students, take note—and get your sketchbooks ready for next year.

LCAD BFA All Majors Summer Exhibition at Laguna College Art + Design, 2222 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach, (949) 376-6000; www.lcad.edu. 11 a.m. Through Aug. 25. Free. —AIMEE MURILLO

thu/07/27

[SPORTS]

Burn Rubber

Monster Trucks & FMX

Experience larger-than-life, custom-built monster trucks smashing through obstacles, getting air and popping wheelies while jumping through dirt tracks. The TRAXXAS Monster Truck Destruction Tour blazes into the Action Sports Arena in Costa Mesa for some extreme horsepower entertainment for the whole family. Enjoy the massive beasts as well as a spectacular Moto-X demonstration, with daring riders on dirt bikes performing amazing aerial feats. Guests can also take part in a pre-event VIP meet and greet with the drivers, plus photo ops with the derby vehicles. The roar of the engines might make your ears ring days later, but there's something gratifying about seeing an F-250 Bigfoot fly in the air, flip and demolish some cars—'merica!

Monster Trucks & FMX at Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 708-1500; ocfair.com. 7:30 p.m. $17.50-$20. —CYNTHIA REBOLLEDO

[CONCERT]

EVERYONE IS GOLDEN

Portugal. The Man

More often than not, when bands try to mix or change the formula that made them popular, the result is disastrous. On *Woodstock*, their new album and eighth overall, Portugal. The Man go into the deep end and incorporate elements of dance music and pop that stray from their original sound. Add to that a new political wokeness that permeates throughout the record, and you have an entirely different band than you may remember prior to 2013. With Danger Mouse and Mike D. of the Beastie Boys highlighting the production team, the Portland-based outfit added a degree of glistening polish that allowed the band to add a couple of No. 1 singles to their repertoire. Regardless of their changing sound, Portugal. The Man remain a force in a live setting, including this intimate space that will undoubtably see these rock vets shine.

Portugal. The Man at the House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; www.houseofblues.com/anaheim. 8 p.m. $35. —DANIEL KOHN

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And That's the Way It Is

Legado Bar + Kitchen can be uneven, but the regulars don't mind

BY EDWIN GOEI

Let it be known that Legado Bar + Kitchen in Laguna Niguel is a restaurant that tries very hard to please. It offers a "Choose Your Size" menu, on which nearly every item is offered in either a small or a full-sized portion. It may not seem revolutionary, but in a business where margins are paper-thin, giving customers the option to pay less for a dish that takes the kitchen as much time and labor to prepare is a big deal. Though the size difference in the portions is not significant, the savings are. For a typical meal, you can potentially save more than 40 percent on the bill.

Legado makes other choices that might affect its bottom line. One night, I opted for the baked potato as the side for an entrée. What I got was a Yukon Gold rather than the usual Russet. And atop it, there was grated cheese, sour cream, butter and chives. No, not green onion—actual chives. Never mind that the potato was barely warm enough to melt the butter; when a restaurant gives me chives when it could've easily gone the cheaper route, it increases my propensity to forgive.

And, gentle reader, there were other things that needed forgiveness. The three-cheese potatoes the waiter recommended as the best side for the baked sole was anything but. It tasted so gluey it reminded me of the au gratin I had at Golden Corral, which ain't a compliment. And the green beans that accompanied this and all the other entrées took on a gray pallor and a texture that ranged from crisp-tender to limp-mushy.

It's safe to assume both the potatoes and the green beans were made in large batches. The kitchen staff is already tasked with executing a voluminous menu of more than 60 items, so it's hard to blame them for the shortcut. But I found issues with some of the made-to-order dishes, too. The beef stroganoff arrived with the cream sauce already broken. As I looked down at the tape-wide noodles wading in a pool of grease, I knew I had to send it back.

When the new bowl was delivered, I was afraid to move, jostle the table or breathe. Never before has a cream sauce seemed as unstable as nitroglycerin.

"Keep it together, stroganoff!" I said, rooting for it. "A food critic is watching!"

Thankfully, most of the cream sauce did manage to stay emulsified all the way to the end. Though the last dregs of it broke apart into an oil slick, the stroganoff was still a good dish—tangy, creamy without being rich, and blessed with mushrooms and plenty of filet mignon strips to justify the $13 cost.

COMFORT FOOD

There was less suspense with the salads. The pear and brie was particularly good—a well-balanced, nicely constructed hill of thinly sliced pears, candied walnuts, brie cheese and cherry tomatoes piled over greens dressed in a balsamic vinaigrette. But I'd argue there's no better dish for the summer than the salad that contains juicy watermelon, honeydew and cantaloupe cubes topping arugula and feta cheese. It may sound like another spin on the old watermelon-and-feta trope, but when chef Manuel Lopez's sticky honey-citrus dressing meets the bitterness of the greens and freshness of the fruits, magic happens.

The salads are, by the way, also offered in the small and full sizes. As with everything here, ordering the small is sufficient. You need only get the small meatball appetizer, which comes as one tennis ball-sized orb. It's enough to get the idea that it's slightly mealy, possibly from too much breadcrumb as filler. And I'm not sure anyone needs more than the smaller serving of the not-quite-chilled ahi tartare with mango, cucumbers, onions and avocado. It's served with a strange-tasting tuile.

In fact, skip everything and focus on the meatloaf—Legado's best dish. Again, opt for the small, and then ask for the mashed potatoes. What you get for your $11 is a meal that's as good as the $27 Allen Brothers New York strip, but with a gravy that's tangier, more addictive and tastes of wine.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN FEINZIMER

It's this dish—and especially its low price—that distinguishes this restaurant in a town that, quite literally, has Ritz-ier options. Legado is very much just a casual neighborhood joint. Most customers are from the 40-and-older crowd. In Legado, they've found the middle ground between chain restaurants and the more extravagant places closer to the beach. Legado is their kind of eatery: a place where a middle-aged guy with a synthesizer performs on weekend nights accompanied by his partner, a woman who belts out a pretty good rendition of "Just the Way You Are." No, not the Bruno Mars song; the Billy Joel one.

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HOLE IN THE WALL

» GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Return of the Kings

TACOS LOS REYES
273 S. Tustin St., Orange, (714) 744-9337.

Last May, an electrical fire took out Carnitas Los Reyes in Orange. It didn't wreck the restaurant à la the Anaheim White House, so its fans figured the tiny spot—whose carnitas drew people from across the state and whose chorizo I once described as "grated until it's as fine as salt, then cooked in oil that looks and feels like transmission fluid but tastes like a thousand spicy hogs"—would reopen within weeks. But weeks turned into months, and months turned into more than a year. I even had the *Los Angeles Times*' great digital editor Tenny Tatusian ask me a couple of months ago when Carnitas Los Reyes would reopen.

Tragically, Tatusian passed away from cancer earlier this month, so she's not around to read what she and so many others waited to hear: It's back, though now renamed Tacos Los Reyes. The only changes are cosmetic—nice tile on the floor and walls where worn paint once was, plus a flat-screen television to entertain the kiddies. But the mountains of meat in steam trays have returned. And back and better than ever is the restaurant's ongoing symphony: the thud of cleaver cutting through meat on its way to meet a chopping block, its 4/4 beat better than any "Despacito" for this summer.

Is it the best *taquería* in Orange County? It ain't even the best in Orange. But what I always loved about Los Reyes is how it deftly marries the past, present and future of Mexican food. You can still order the spectacular hard-shell tacos here—as thin as a Communion wafer and buried under a snowpack of cheese. Or you can get a straight combo plate of enchiladas or ribs, accompanied by better-than-average refried beans and that red salsa that doesn't sting one bit yet remains irresistible. Or side with tacos that, while a bit costly at $1.75, are huge and worth it. That's why Los Reyes is packed, yet again, with day laborers, Chapman kids and retirees alike. And that's why I'll always eat here—to remember Tatusian, who knew great food the way Kobe knew his way around a clear lane.

GARELLANO@OCWEEKLY.COM

READ MORE ONLINE
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OCWEEKLY.COM/RESTAURANTS

GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Summer on a Stick

The Bite Me at South Swell Ice Cream

You can have your fancy ice creams and gelatos and sorbets (save me a spoonful, though!). Give me an ice cream bar: a slab of vanilla dipped in chocolate, then rubbed in a mixture of ingredients. Give me what the gals make down at South Swell Ice Cream in San Clemente.

Open just this spring, the small, sprightly shop sells bars and bars alone, the better for families to take as they stroll down Avenida Del Mar toward the pier. You can make your own creation from South Swell's many ingredients, but I always order the Bite Me. All it is is your standard vanilla ice cream bar rolled in Butterfinger bits and drizzled with peanut butter—but what else do you need for this heat wave? Salty, sweet, cold and anchored by the gourmet chocolate South Swell uses as a base, the Bite Me is summer on a stick. Oh, and don't forget to also order Deez Nuts, the best-named dish in Orange County since the Chingaderas at Smoqued in Orange.

SOUTH SWELL ICE CREAM
137 Avenida Del Mar, San Clemente, (949) 388-4984; www.southswellicecream.

EatThisNow

» GUSTAVO ARELLANO

DrinkoftheWeek

» ROBERT FLORES

La Tarte Cerise at Hoparazzi Brewing Co.

ROBERT FLORES

The city of #AleAHeim is home to 14 breweries, and yes, more are on the way, from large production facilities to mom-and-pop brew houses. Hoparazzi Brewing Co. is one of the smaller breweries, but its list of suds rivals anyone's in town. Tangy sours, rich porters and stouts, and light but flavorful Kölsches are among the outstanding roster of carefully crafted beers.

Hoparazzi is located on that stretch of La Palma Avenue toward Anaheim Hills that's becoming known as Brewery Road, a beer-lover's mecca of hops and malts. The tasting room is very comfortable, with big-screen TVs on which to watch sports and a beautiful bar made from wood reclaimed from a Midwest bowling alley. The super-friendly Lisa Perez owns the place, which is only open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays right now—so plan accordingly. And don't get thrown off by Hoparazzi's name: It specializes in sours. Not a fan of sours? Try La Tarte Cerise.

THE DRINK

At 5.5 percent ABV, this cherry sour is ta-ta-TANGY! You'll find taste buds you didn't know existed! Most people don't like sours because they're not done right, but brewer Steve Benlien and Perez know sours—#respect.

HOPARAZZI BREWING CO.
2910 E. La Palma Ave., Ste. D, Anaheim, (714) 204-0655.

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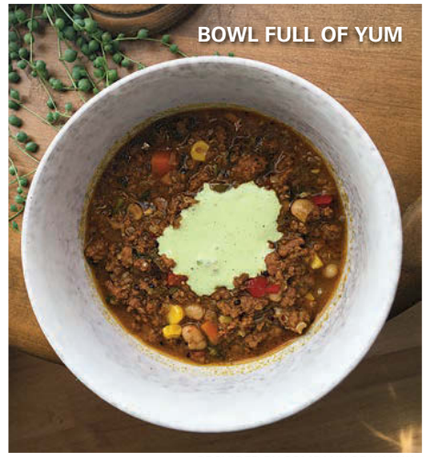

PROVIDED BY COMPANY OF KHANH

LONG BEACH LUNCH
» SARAH BENNETT

Last October, Long Beach native Khanh Hoang held a pop-up dinner at Scoops, the artisanal ice cream shop in SanTana. Using a combination of insight from her travels, recipes gleaned from cookbooks and YouTube, plus her own experiences with ingredients and chefs from the region, the self-taught chef crafted a tribute to South America that included her own take on the notoriously versatile Brazilian feijoada.

After trying Hoang's version of the hearty meat stew, a Brazilian woman approached her for a hug. The meal had reminded her of home. "I almost started crying because that's such a compliment," Hoang says. "That's pretty much all I want to do with my food is to make people feel at home and feel comforted. It's important to do that and bring diversity to the table because I think it's seriously lacking in a lot of places."

A nurse by day, Hoang runs Company of Khanh (www.companyofkhanh.com), which organizes bimonthly, immersive pop-up dinners inspired by global cuisines. Her events are held everywhere from back yards to public parks and feature décor and music that thoughtfully align with what's on the plate. Her menus cover a wide swath of flavors and cultures, from Greek to Vietnamese to Southern food, all made with quality ingredients and reflective of her vast home-cooking range.

"I cook for my boyfriend all the time. Tuesdays, we might have Jamaican food. Thursdays, we might have Moroccan food. Fridays, we'll have something else," she says. "It's fun to have different types of food to eat. I can't imagine eating one type of food. That just kills me."

Each season brings a different element to her dinners. In winter, she does a Stew Social that allows her to make soups such as Peruvian parihuela, Moroccan lentil, Vietnamese bò kho and vegan Thai khao soi. Her most recent event was a sold-out Ethiopian picnic at Bluff Park, and on July 29, she's hosting a Midsummer Dinner Party with fellow Long Beach chef Aliye Aydin of A Good Carrot. Hoang also has an upcoming appearance at the Long Beach Zine Fest and is hosting a cultural Pizza Party on Aug. 19.

"I try to pay tribute to the cultures that I bring into my menus because I don't want to disrespect anybody," she says. "My goal is to bring people together."

Company of Khanh started two summers ago, after Hoang returned from a trip to Turkey and felt inspired to share the food she ate there. As a medical professional, she knows how important what we put into our body is to our overall well-being and has always been fascinated by the various ways people cook and eat.

As a child, she remembers helping other Vietnamese families whenever they were having parties; she spent hours learning how to cook and rolling perfect egg rolls for hundreds of guests. In college, she worked in Japanese, Greek and fine Italian restaurants, picking the brains of chefs at each.

These days, each time she travels, it becomes a full-on food affair. "You can drop me off at grocery store and pick me up two hours later," Hoang says of her vacation style. "I'll have looked at the back labels of every item and asked people how to use it. I enjoy discovering new ingredients."

Though she's keeping Company of Khanh busy with local pop-up dinners and events for now, Hoang hopes to one day have her own restaurant in Long Beach, where she can preach the gospel of diversity and bring different people together with her eclectic interests in food.

"I feel like that's going to be the future of restaurants—not just one type of cuisine," she says. "The chefs of the future are going to be like me. The world is only getting more intersected, so why not?"

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BRAINFEEDER FILMS

Big-Screen Barfbag

Kuso lives up to its intent of being the grossest film ever made

BY AIMEE MURILLO

The draw for many people to the film *Kuso* will undoubtedly be to see if it lives up to its hype of being "the grossest movie ever made." Indeed, the directorial debut by electronic producer Flying Lotus, here going by the mononym Steve, does: This is definitely a disgusting film. Audience members will exit the theater for the bathroom, look away in revulsion, or be offended. But if you can stomach the grotesqueness of it all, you might find it's also the most creative, out-of-the-box movie you've seen in years, with plenty of comedy—and something to say, too. (Quick disclosure: I appear as an extra in the first two minutes—and I'm freakin' proud of it.)

Kuso (which is Japanese for *shit*) earns its reputation by including plenty of revolting, viscous fluids such as semen, feces and vomit, as well as talking boils, insects, fart noises and strange perversions (in the future, alien porn will be a thing). The film's narrative flows in a freewheeling, psychedelic manner from one vignette to another, orbiting around the denizens of post-apocalyptic Los Angeles after an earthquake. Some of them include a brother and sister who enjoy rough sex, a schoolboy who discovers a monstrous organism in the forest, and a woman (rapper The Buttress) hanging out with her interdimensional friends (one of them voiced by Hannibal Buress) while also running from her obsessive landlord (played by Tim Heidecker). Other cameos include Anders Holm, Zack Fox and Parliament/Funkadelic front man George Clinton as a doctor with a literal bug up his ass named Mr. Quiggle. There's also animated interludes and experimental music sequences, such as one man's fever dream of breasts floating through negative space (which, in turn, cures him of his fear of breasts).

Steve, who aimed to "show people the ugly" with *Kuso*, doesn't let his camera flinch or zoom out when focusing on feces being handled, semen being smeared on lips, or an erect penis being stabbed with a steel rod. At times, it feels assaulting on the visual senses, but mainly it's so straightforward and treated with humorous aplomb, you kind of get used to it. Not in a desensitizing way, but you come to accept it as part of the film's universe. Add to this the grimy atmosphere, detailed production design, foreboding sound design and soundtrack (supplied by Flying Lotus, Aphex Twin, Kamasi Washington and Akira Yamaoka), and digital animation, all of which combines to present study after study of urban decay, based in a city that prides itself on its beauty and vanity.

Before making *Kuso*, Flying Lotus (born Steven Ellison) set himself apart from the LA beat-music scene by composing stellar electronic music with conceptual themes. *Cosmogramma* (2010) traversed through the planets with soul, hip hop and jazz influences, while *Until the Quiet Comes* (2012) dealt with otherworldly passages through the subconscious. *You're Dead!* (2014) allowed Flying Lotus to sonically transgress mortality and explore the afterlife. Live performances during his 2014 tour even included a visual component, with him inside a giant layered cube that projected computer animations of virtual shapes and animations by Japanese horror illustrator Shintaro Kago. In part, *Kuso* feels like an extension of Flying Lotus' penchant for matching abstract visuals to music, as well as the natural next step for the artist to explore ideas and concepts more fully.

First-time viewing for *Kuso* is a challenge for anyone, even for those with morbid taste and a higher tolerance for the body horror genre. But at each of my exhaustion points, something new and wildly disturbing would emerge. And that's the affect the best transgressive cinema achieves: engagement to the subject matter, no matter how ugly or vile it gets. Just remember to bring some barf bags in case your viewing experience gets *too* vile.

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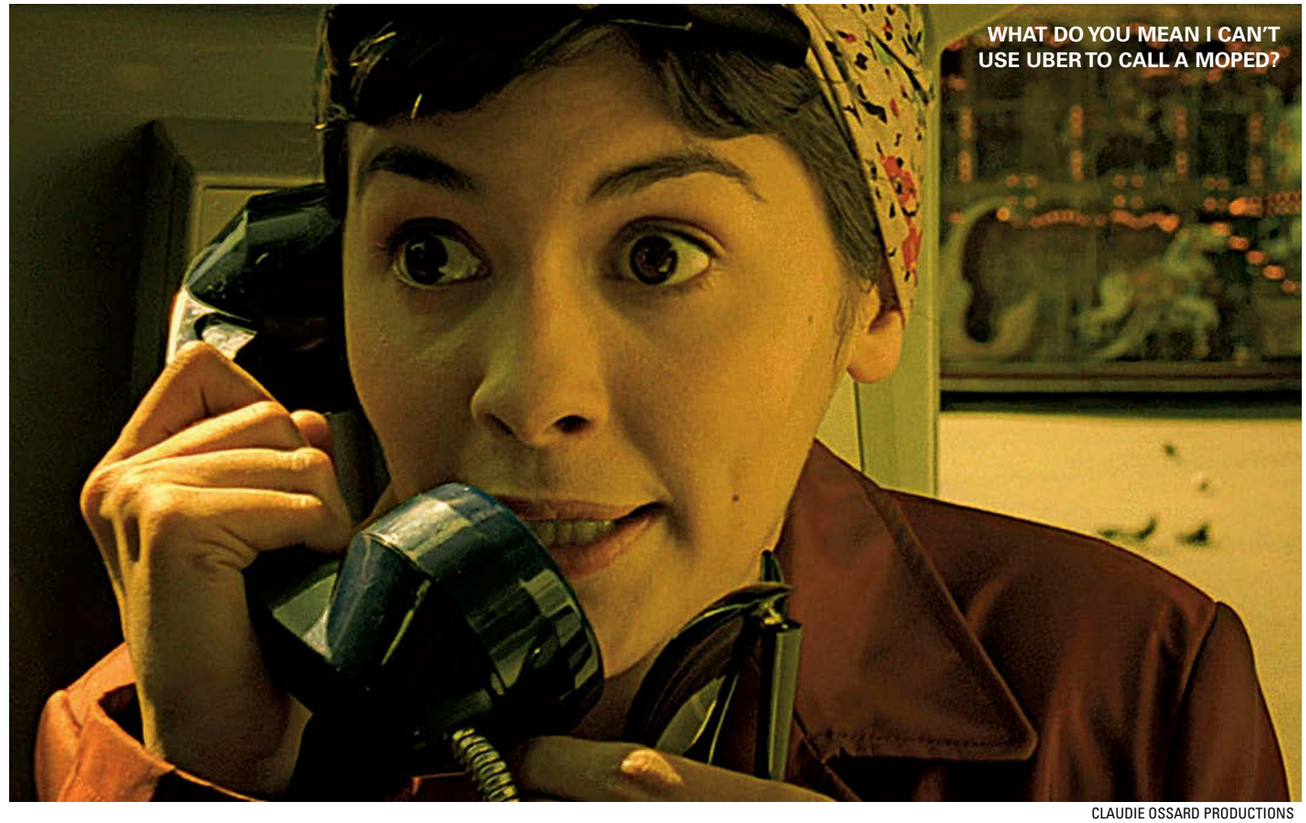
KUSO

was written by Steve and David Firth; directed by Steve; and stars Hannibal Buress, Tim Heidecker, Anders Holm, The Buttress, George Clinton and Zack Fox. Opens Fri. at the Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana; thefridacinema.org. Also streaming worldwide on Shudder (www.shudder.com).

Even Artichokes Have Hearts

BY MATT COKER



CLAUDIE OSSARD PRODUCTIONS

***The Immigrant* and *Shoulder Arms*.** Watching silent Chaplin flicks can be cool, but something about the black-and-white film and having to read cards can make these old eyes sleepy, even if live musicians are performing the score. So I can't recommend this . . . What? There's whiskey, too? I'm SO there! *The Exhibition Room, 1117 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach, (562) 826-2940. Thurs., July 20, 8 p.m. $30. 21+.*

***Return to Nuke 'Em High Vol. 1* and *Return to Nuke 'Em High Vol. 2*.** Lloyd Kaufman, the subject of the Frida's Directors Series, is scheduled to appear at this double feature. *The Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana; thefridacinema.org. Thurs., July 20, 8 p.m. $10.*

***History of Rock 'n' Roll*.** This Osher Lifelong Learning Institute series event features discussions, film clips and audio recordings from the rock & roll era (1940s-'70s). *Cal State Fullerton, Mackey Auditorium, Ruby Gerontology Center, 800 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, (657) 278-2446; olli.fullerton.edu. Fri., noon. Free.*

***WALL-E*.** The 2008 Oscar winner for Best Animated Feature has the last robot on Earth, spending his days tidying up the planet until he spots EVE. *Rancho Santa Margarita Library, 30902 La Promesa, Rancho Santa Margarita, (949) 549-6094. Fri., 2 p.m. Free.*

***Finding Dory*.** Oh, there she is, behind that $1.002 billion in global box office. Cool off in the pool before catching the movie at the first venue listed. *La Habra High School, Stadium Pool, 801 W. Highlander Ave., La Habra, (562) 383-4205. Fri., pool opens, 5:30 p.m.; screening, dusk. $5; children aged 2 and younger, free; also at Lake Forest Sports Park, 28000 Rancho Pkwy., Lake Forest; calakeforest.civicplus.com. Fri., 7:30 p.m. Free; and Arovista Park, 415 W. Elm St., Brea, (714) 990-7112. Fri., 8 p.m. Free.*

***Ferris Bueller's Day Off*.** The same year (1986) that this movie came out with Matthew Broderick lip-synching the Beatles version of "Twist & Shout," Rodney Dangerfield actually sang a cover of the Top Notes song in *Back to School*. Yet which performance does everyone yammer on about? This proves Rodney really did get no respect, no respect at all. *Mason Regional Park, 18712 University Dr., Irvine, (949) 923-2220. Fri., dusk. Free.*

***The Princess Bride*.** Rob Reiner's excellent 1987 adventure movie has a swashbuckler (Cary Elwes) trying to save his childhood sweetheart (Robin Wright) from marrying President Underwood. Fencing, fighting and a lot of Wright-Kevin Spacey scenery chewing in the last season streamed on Netflix ensue. Oh, wait, wrong show. *Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort & Marina, behind Moe B's Watersports, 1131 Back Bay Dr., Newport Beach, (949) 729-3863. Fri., dusk. Free, but it costs to park on the premises.*

***Tangled*.** In this animated Disney flick from 2010, Flynn Rider (voiced by Zachary Levi) is a bandit hiding from the kingdom in a tower. Rapunzel (Mandy Moore) is the tower's longtime resident who takes him captive. But she wants the heck out, so they hatch a plan. *Juarez Park, 841 S. Sunset St., Anaheim, (714) 765-5155. Fri., 7:45 p.m. Free.*

***Hackers*.** The 1995 cyberpunk cult classic stars a young Angelina Jolie, Jonny Lee Miller and pride of Tustin High Matthew Lillard. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Fri., 11 p.m. $10.*

***Food Evolution*.** From Iowa cornfields to Hawaiian papaya groves to Ugandan banana farms, the debate around GMO food rages. Funded by the Institute of Food Technologists, a nonprofit composed of food scientists from around the world, the doc aims to separate hype from science. *Art Theatre, 2025 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, (562) 438-5435. Sat.-Sun., 11 a.m. $8.50-$11.50.*

***Seven Samurai*.** I wonder how many people, like me, saw *The Magnificent Seven* before catching director Akira Kurosawa's 1954 landmark film that inspired it. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Sat.-Sun., 12:30 p.m. $7; also 5:30 p.m. $10.*

***The Little Mermaid*.** Ariel, a 16-year-old mermaid, is forbidden by her father King Triton from mixing with the humans on land, but doggone it, she's gone and fallen for a handsome prince in this 1989 flick that reenergized Disney animation. *Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort & Marina, (949) 729-3863. Sat., dusk. Free, but it costs to park on the premises.*

***Kiki's Delivery Service*.** Anime master Hayao Miyazaki's beloved coming-of-age story follows a resourceful young witch who uses her broom to create a delivery service, only to lose her gift of flight in a moment of self-doubt. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com or www.ghiblifest.com. Sun., 12:55 p.m. (dubbed into English). $12.50; also Mon., 7 p.m. (English subtitles). $12.50.*

***Devdas*.** Celebrating its 15th anniversary is Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Hindi romantic drama about a man (Shahrukh Khan) finding and losing the love of his life. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Sun., 2 & 7 p.m. $10.*

***Stand and Deliver*.** Edward James Olmos' Oscar-nominated performance centers this true story from 1988 about a Los Angeles high-school teacher who drives his students to excellence at calculus. *Renee and Henry Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 556-2787; www.scfta.org/MovieMondays. Mon., dusk. Free.*

***Amélie*.** Audrey Tautou plays a young woman in central Paris, where she finds a lost treasure in her flat and tries to return it to the apartment's former occupant. His pleased reaction ignites a passion in Amélie to fill the lives of those around her with joy. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Mon.-Tues., 8 p.m. $10.*

***The New York Hardcore Chronicles*.** Director Drew Stone apparently shot his flick in an episodic format, with more than 60 interviews, never-before-seen footage, photos and a "blazing" soundtrack. *Art Theatre, (562) 438-5435. Mon., 9 p.m. $15.*

***Back to the Future*.** Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) and Doc Brown (Christopher Lloyd) go from the 1980s back to the '50s to prevent damage done from going back to the past—otherwise they'll mess up the future. Got it? *Regency Directors Cut Cinema at Rancho Niguel, 25471 Rancho Niguel Rd., Laguna Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Tues., 7:30 p.m. $8.*

***Julie & Julia*.** Meryl Streep absolutely melts into the role of Julia Child in Nora Ephron's dramedy that contrasts the famous TV chef's early culinary career with New York blogger Julie Powell's (Amy Adams) attempt decades later to prepare all 524 recipes in Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* in 365 days. You are advised to arrive early to secure a comfy seat or lounge and grab food from one of the many restaurants, including Lot 579's artisanal food hall. *Pacific City, Level Two, 21010 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach; www.gopacificcity.com/events/. Wed., 7 p.m. Free.*

***The Band Wagon*.** The 1953 Vincente Minnelli musical stars Fred Astaire as a washed-up movie star giving Broadway a go. *Regency South Coast Village, 1561 Sunflower Ave., Santa Ana, (714) 557-5701. Wed., 7:30 p.m. $9.*

***Tromeo & Juliet* and *Terror Firmer*.** Troma/Lloyd Kaufman fever continues with a double bill headlined by the surprisingly faithful 1996 Shakespeare adaptation. Three years later came *Terror Firmer*, which honors all Troma films that came before it and is based on the studio founder's autobiography *All I Need to Know About Filmmaking I Learned From the Toxic Avenger*. *The Frida Cinema; thefridacinema.org. Wed.-Thurs., July 26-27, 8 p.m. $10.*

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The Past Remains Prologue

Ever-great New Swan Shakespeare Festival returns with *The Tempest* and *The Taming of the Shrew*

BY JOEL BEERS

THE BARD ABIDES

NEW SWAN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

The best Shakespeare is no Shakespeare. No, not a moratorium on his work, but rather when you get so immersed in a Shakespeare play that you forget you're watching Shakespeare and find yourself watching a compelling story unfold.

And that, along with the coolest theatrical venue in Orange County (a 160-seat, three-level, outdoor, mini-Elizabethan theater fashioned into a cylinder from wood and steel), is what makes the New Swan Shakespeare Festival so refreshing. Now in its sixth season, the festival, which includes two plays and seminars and workshops throughout the summer, is living, breathing proof that a capable team of designers and actors can not only create a production faithful to Shakespeare's text, but also make it as fun as doing a marathon in a golf cart driven by a naked porn star.

Founder and artistic director Eli Simon, who is also a theater professor at UC Irvine, realizes that the most important thing in Shakespeare isn't the plot, character or the setting; it's telling the story. Whether set in period, such as its production of *The Tempest* this season, or updated in terms of time and setting, as its 1980s-spin on *The Taming of the Shrew*, the only thing sacred is the story. The shows are faithful to Shakespeare's text, with a company of professional alumni and students delivering his language fluently and clearly, but they are given just enough breathing space to imbue the lofty poetics with an earthy sensibility that springs less from the soul than from the loins.

The resulting productions absolutely relate Shakespeare's timeless tales, but in such a fun and accessible way that something near-miraculous is achieved: You forget occasionally that you're watching 400-year-old iconic plays. Instead, you're watching characters that, while they do speak a bit weird, feel fresh, alive and relevant.

The plays are presented in repertory, which means that the same cast performs in both plays, usually one night after the other. Simon directs *The Tempest*, a play that, while never dormant for too long, seems particularly in vogue these days. The Royal Shakespeare Co. is currently producing it in London, the Teller-Tom Waits Dust Bowl mashup always seems to be playing somewhere in the U.S. (including South Coast Repertory a couple of seasons ago) and, along with this UCI show, it's also currently running as the first play of the 2017 Shakespeare/Summerfest Orange County in Garden Grove (more on that in two weeks).

While the cast is wearing kind-of-contemporary clothing, this is still *The Tempest* that anyone familiar with the tale will recognize. A banished former duke of Milan, Prospero (a spellbinding Greg Ungar, who is both melancholic and filled with indignation) lives on an undiscovered island somewhere in the Mediterranean with his daughter Miranda (a captivating Anita Abdinezhad) and a brutish native named Caliban (a writhing, agile Thomas Varga). As fate would have it, a ship carrying the dastardly villains who banished him is sailing near the island, and Prospero, who has spent his exile learning magic, commands his servant, Ariel (a radiant and menacing Grace Theobald), to whip up a storm to drive them to the island. Lots of other stuff happens, but the highlight, at least in this production, along with Prospero's journey from revenge to mercy, is the comic antics of two drunkards, a puppet-wielding Trinculo (Ryan Imhoff) and his friend Stephana (a hilarious Chynna Walker). Stephana gives Caliban some alcohol that immediately makes him revere her as his God. Caliban, a victim of colonial oppression (as many have opined over the years), entreats Stephana to assassinate Prospero, and the stage is set.

Imhoff delivers a towering performance as Petruchio in the punk rock-tinged *The Taming of the Shrew*, another play that rarely falls off the radar. One of the most hotly debated plays in the Bard's canon (is Petruchio *really* a misogynist? Is the sharp-tongued Kate whom he beats, starves and verbally abuses *really* in adoration of him at play's end?), director Beth Lopes stages the key moments as written. There's no attempt to whitewash the abuse; but rather than a feminist's worst nightmare, the interaction between Imhoff and Grace Morrison's Kate is handled so well that instead of feeling like a woman being emotionally beat down into submission, the two seem to be complicit partners at play's end, a kind of strong-willed outsider couple bucking society's conformity.

Both plays, which run a little more than two hours plus an intermission, feature an imaginative and talented ensemble that knows how to deliver the highs and lows of Shakespeare's language. They are eminently watchable, entertaining and, occasionally, even touching. It feels less like watching people do Shakespeare because it is Shakespeare, and actors *must* do Shakespeare—but because they want to. And they are having a hell of a good time doing it.

THE TEMPEST* AND *THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

at New Swan Theater, UC Irvine, 4002 Mesa Rd., Irvine, (949) 824-2787; newswanshakespeare.com. Wed.-Sun., 8 p.m. Both shows in repertory through Sept. 2. $15-$55.

TrendZilla

» AIMEE MURILLO

Score Some Ceramics

I've been on a real ceramics kick lately and have scored some gorgeous pottery to store plants, sit as decoration, or carry gorgeous designs. (Wo)mankind has practiced and purchased the glazed, rotund art form for centuries, but the past few years more artists have appeared on my radar with their splendid, forward-thinking creations. If you want something different to beautify your living space, check out these locals making the best bowls, sculptures and pots in the game!

Art de Karla: Jalisco-born, Long Beach-based Karla Camacho (*www.instagram.com/art_dekarla*) paints riveting landscapes, shapes, plants and even Frida Kahlo onto her covetable, handmade mugs, vases, bowls and other objects. Unsurprisingly, the Frida cups are her fastest-selling items.

Johnny Clayworks: No two bowls by Cypress-based potter John Lawrence (*www.johnnyclayworks.com*) look alike. Each of Lawrence's products—including ice cream bowls, planters, succulent pots and cups—has a beautiful texture and dark color tone. They beautifully add a touch of class and boldness!

Kristina Bing: Pasadena's Bing transforms monotone terra-cotta planters into stunning art with her stylish, colorful shape designs. You can purchase them in stores in Long Beach and Los Angeles, including Peacock & Co. (*440 E. First St., Long Beach; www.wearepeacockandco.com*). Or contact Bing via her Instagram (*www.instagram.com/kbing*) to buy online.

Seth Bogart: Hunx and His Punx front man Bogart now makes gloriously colorful art and clothing with hand-scribbled logos and drawings. His kooky aesthetic extends to ceramic sculptures of toothpaste, perfume bottles, hands, teeth, soda cans, cigarettes and food. Check out his work via his website (*sethbogart.com*); you'll also find them available for purchase at LA-based Ooga Booga (*943 N. Broadway, Ste. 203, Los Angeles, 213-617-1105; www.oogaboogastore.com*).

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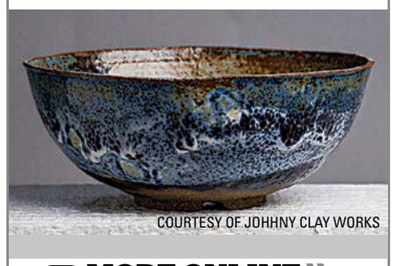

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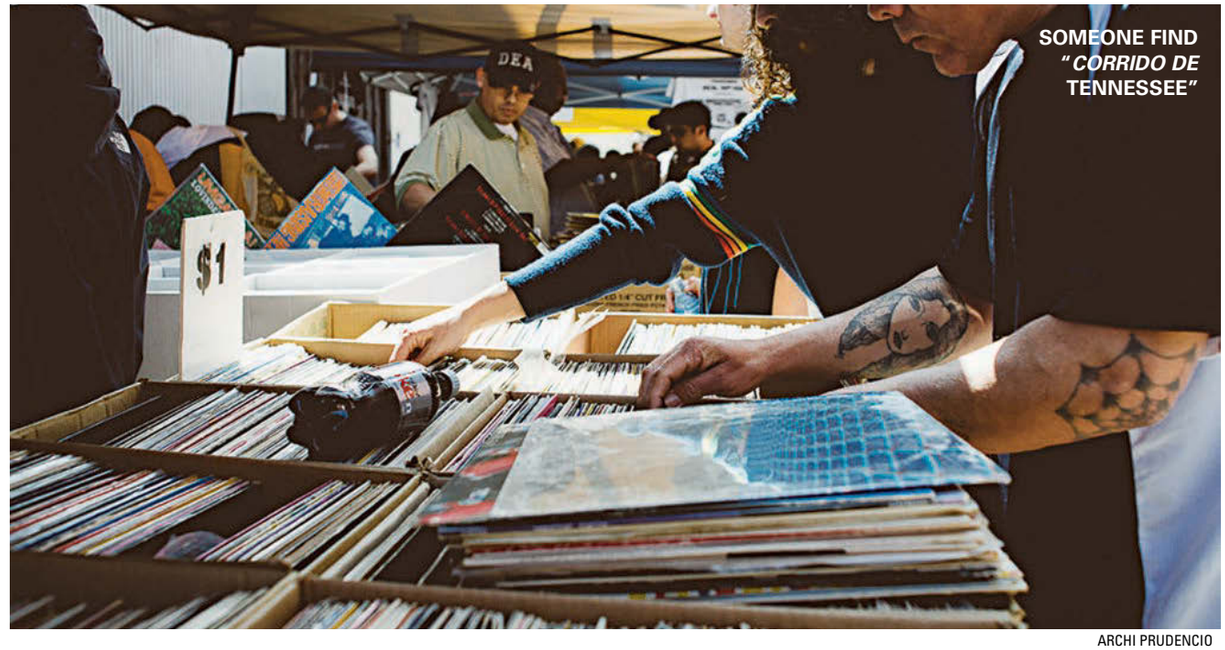
Watering Hip-Hop's Wax Roots

Beat Swap Meet celebrates nine years of unity through crate digging

BY NATE JACKSON



SOMEONE FIND *"CORRIDO DE* TENNESSEE"

ARCHI PRUDENCIO

After five decades of hip-hop history behind us, there's very little room for argument over the importance of the four key elements of the genre: emceeing, break-dancing, turntablism and graffiti art. But what is it that all those different types of artists have in common? More likely than not, they're all record collectors. While hip-hop culture has continued to evolve, the roots of the genre always revolved around wax. Without a beat to breakdance to or a sample to scratch, a rhythm to rhyme over or a soundtrack to inspire artistic revelation and rebellion, the genre would be nonexistent. Coming to that realization in his early 20s is what led Robby "Utmos" Powers to create Beat Swap Meet.

"I noticed the hip-hop community was lacking an event that really honored the record-collecting aspect of hip-hop," Powers says. "Beat Swap Meet came out of that concept."

What started as an excuse to host a gathering for record collectors and hip-hop-heads turned into one of the most respected crate-digging events in Southern California. The art of searching for rare vinyl of genres ranging from funk and soul to punk, reggae, jazz and hip-hop underneath pop-up canopies in the blazing sun expanded to include b-boy competitions, car exhibitions, DJ battles and live shows in both Santa Ana and LA on a quarterly basis. And this weekend, Beat Swap Meet celebrates its ninth anniversary at Diego's Rock-n-Roll Bar & Eats, proof that rock and rap are intrinsically linked—no matter what Gene Simmons says.

The swap meet was actually launched in Echo Park, then moved to Chinatown for several years. But, Powers says, pushback in LA against Beat Swap Meet because of minor local politics was making it hard for the event to operate or get the permits needed to throw the event. "Due to that frustration, we started reaching out to different areas, and OC was one of them," says Powers, who lived in OC for several years during the event's development. "There was also a property owner [in Santa Ana] who was already becoming a big supporter of Beat Swap Meet, and when he caught wind about the issues we were going through offered us this property to let us host our events."

After creating an outpost in OC, Beat Swap Meet steadily grew, as more and more crate diggers, hip-hop-heads and well-known artists started to show up. The difference between Beat Swap Meet and other more traditional record swaps are the involvement of local artists, the quality of the vinyl inventory, and the element of fun and hip-hop culture that pervades its every aspect. The anniversary party features seven music areas, with performances by Beat Junkies and Stones Throw rapper M.E.D.; a b-boy battle; a lowrider car competition; turntable repair; DJ tutorials and exhibitions; live art; and street vendors. Every Beat Swap Meet also doubles as a canned-food drive for the homeless. "[At other records swaps,] you'll go, and it'll just be a bunch of record dealers sitting there, no DJ playing. It's hard to really get into the buying experience or find a fun element to it," Powers says. "So we put more pieces into the event that entertain people in a more mature way."

That also means educating people in a way that avoids being condescending or corny. By placing elements of hip-hop culture in front of people, Powers says, Beat Swap Meet has the ability to inspire people who never realized any one of the elements could be their true passion. "People are going to a swap meet looking for all these breaks but have never actually seen anyone breakdance to that breakbeat," Powers says. "So you can actually see stuff like that happen at the b-boy competition and even learn why it's called a break. There's an education piece to it without us even telling people. . . . It's like poetry in motion."

It also helps to have A-list beat-scene artists such as Flying Lotus, Gaslamp Killer and J. Rocc dropping in—not to perform, but to check out records like everyone else. That's what really helped the event to take off. "[All those artists] did a video over there and interviewing themselves about Beat Swap Meet," Powers says. "When people saw that video, it made them want to go out and be someone buying records just like their favorite musician does. After our third store, a lot of people wanted to live that lifestyle."

While one event can't take full credit for the vinyl resurgence of the past decade, Powers says, it's no coincidence that sales started to uptick after swaps like his started becoming more prevalent around the country. "Pretty much all [the record stores we visited] were on the verge of closing when we first started, and if you were to look at record sales . . . the year Beat Swap Meet started was the first year record sales started going back up," Powers says. "So I think we had a big involvement in redefining what it's like to be a record collector and what that experience should be like."

As with hip-hop itself, experiments don't always work. But even when things don't go according to plan, such as when Powers attempted to expand Beat Swap Meet to places like Dallas or Chicago for a couple of years, it's usually not for lack of trying. On a constant mission to refine the events while looking for a financial boost through partnerships with credible brands in the hip-hop community, Beat Swap Meet also searches for ways to nourish hip-hop's wax roots. "There're so many brands out here that claim to be the one that cares about this demographic so much, we just need one of those brands to care enough to help us out a little bit," Powers says. "Beats By Dre could support Beat Swap Meet off two hours' worth of their income. If we could do that, then, really, all our dreams of expanding Beat Swap Meet could really come true."

Of course, the fact that Beat Swap Meet has survived this long means Powers is doing something that strengthens the community and advances the love among hip-hop-heads throughout Santa Ana and the rest of SoCal. "I organize a lot of events and work on a lot of events, as well as bigger events that make a lot of money, but I've never worked on an event that gets as much respect from the artists that Beat Swap Meet gets," Powers says.

Even in its cultivation of the four elements of hip-hop, the ability to bring so many groups of artists and music lovers together to contribute to the hand-me-down tradition of the culture leads to one more important vital element: that of surprise.

"I've seen established musicians who find some of their own stuff and never even knew that stuff was out on vinyl," Powers says. "You never know what's hiding in some of these boxes of records."

BEAT SWAP MEET'S NINE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

featuring Beat Junkies, M.E.D., Free the Robots, Daedelus and more, at Diego's Rock-n-Roll Bar & Eats, 224 E. Third St., Santa Ana, (855) 946-3472; www.diegosbarsa.com. Sun., noon-6 p.m. Free, but please bring a canned-food item to donate. All ages.

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Birds of a Feather Rock Together

Big Monsta and the Sugar team up to revive OC rock

BY BRITTANY WOOLSEY

COURTESY OF BIG MONSTA

The title of Big Monsta's forthcoming EP, *I Wonder If We'll Be Alright*, could also describe the band's feelings of trying to navigate through an oversaturated and difficult music world. But the OC-based band are teaming up with the Sugar to put our county's rock scene back on the map.

"It's almost like we're in a bit of a funk," says Cole Blackamore, lead vocalist and guitarist of the Sugar. "It's like we're stuck. I don't know if we need to work harder as a community because there's so much good music in Orange County that just gets overlooked."

The bands, each of which boast rock and blues influences, will play a dual album-release show Saturday in the Parish Room at the House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk. According to Big Monsta lead vocalist/guitarist Jimmy Hua, the group's upcoming three-track release, their fourth since their 2012 debut, has a different sound than previous recordings. "This is a transitional or buffer EP because we're trying to stray away from our early songs and our old style of songwriting," he says. "We were kind of heavy-handed on that for a couple of years. We're trying to make the songs more focused on chorus and vocals. This is a more dynamic type of music and a little more aggressive tonally."

As with their other releases, Big Monsta—which also includes drummer Mike Willson and bassist Adrian Sanchez—recorded *I Wonder If We'll Be Alright* on their own at Willson's Huntington Beach studio Music and Arts Production Studio (MAPS). Being DIY put a lot of pressure on the group originally, but since then, they've learned to "find their bearings" to be more efficient, Hua says.

Hua and Willson take their experiences with Big Monsta to help other bands recording at MAPS. "I'm more conscious about the cost of going into it," Hua says. "The method that people are going about now, especially in the digital age of recording, is there are so many options. I help people facilitate decisions before recording so it's a lot quicker and people save money."

One of the groups Hua worked with was the Sugar, who are releasing their first album, composed of eight tracks, at this weekend's show. The two-piece outfit—drummer Tony Crosley joins Blackamore—say working with another local band has helped them navigate through what Blackamore described as a struggling rock community in Orange County.

COURTESY OF THE SUGAR

Hua says he believes the county is nostalgic for the 1980s and '90s right now, which makes it hard for groups to make a name for themselves when they are playing original music. He often hears about other groups leaving Orange County and claiming other areas for this reason. "Rock music is such in a weird position right now, whether that's on an independent level or a corporate level," Hua says. "Orange County is kind of having a hard time with that. What I've been noticing recently is that Orange County is very nostalgic. They want the '90s band or the '80s cover band, and we don't fit into that."

Whether they choose to fit the mold or not, when it comes to playing live shows, these birds of a feather rock together. "There are a lot of pockets in our community, musically," Hua says. "I feel like if we're going to play shows, it makes sense to do it with our buddies."

BIG MONSTA AND THE SUGAR play in the Parish Room at the House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; www.hob.com. Sat., 7 p.m. $10. All ages.

THOMAS MCDONNELL

Science With Guitars

For generations, one of the most fruitless endeavors attempted by the human race is to make teachers cool. It's just always been too big an ask. We've all had that one teacher who will try to use modern kid-speak but get it horribly wrong (think "groovy"), while shoehorning pop-culture references about the latest teen-idol pop star and/or TV show into unrelated conversations.

It gets excruciating fast. The only way a teacher can hold a modicum of cool is to embrace their intrinsic lack of cool (in the eyes of the kids), thereby playing the geek card and turning the whole thing on its head. Enter the Amoeba People.

Ray Hedgpeth (Mr. Hedgpeth to you) is a science teacher at Esther Lindstrom Elementary School in Lakewood who works with grades four, five and six. He has been teaching the sciences for 18 years, and for the past seven, he's also been singing and playing a variety of instruments (including guitar, banjo and kazoo) with drummer Dustin Jordan and bassist Ryan Mosley as the Amoeba People.

There's a loose, gloriously nonsensical backstory to the band that involves the three of them actually being musical ambassadors for the planet Crouton. They've come to Earth to study its scientific knowledge and report back to their home planet in the form of quirky tunes. Think They Might Be Giants or perhaps the Barenaked Ladies mixed with some Aquabats. Yep, the guys resemble teachers, but they're actually alien superheroes. It's the ultimate teacher dream.

"When we formed, the mission was to do something crazy and fun and different," Hedgpeth says. "Science is a big deal to me. I had a few science songs that I use to just engage students, and I found they transferred quite well to a band setting. I found that kids can actually understand quite a bit if you don't talk down to them, if you actually give them concepts that even working scientists are using on a daily basis. Kids can grasp it pretty well if you approach it the right way."

LocalsOnly

» BRETT CALLWOOD

Helping kids to learn by putting difficult-to-grasp concepts into a relatable form is not only cool, but it's also amazing and important. Other scientists and teachers from around the country have been contacting the band to compliment them on their methods—and understandably so. If you can make kids laugh and learn at the same time, you've cracked the code.

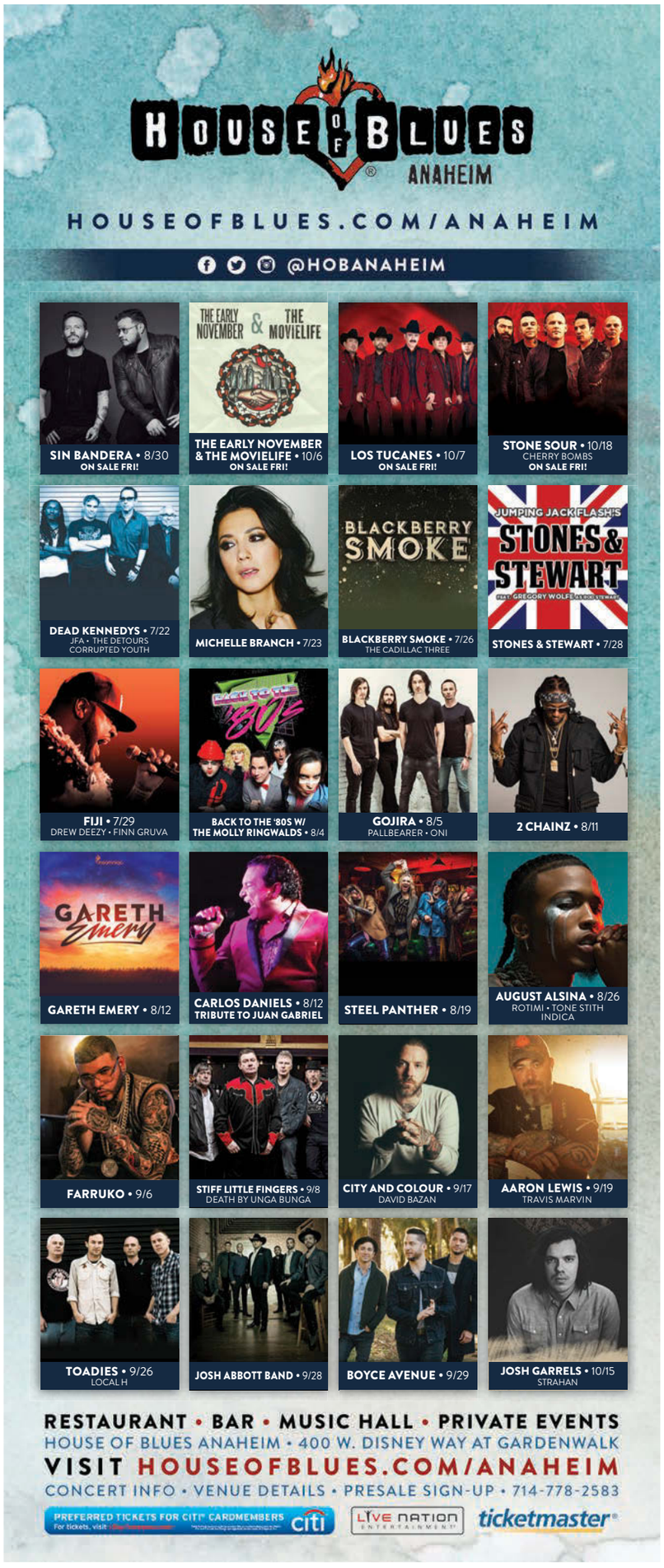
Jordan and Mosley deserve special credit; they're not actually teachers, yet they've taken on the roles for the sake of the band like ducks to water. The trio have been friends and band mates in other groups for many years, bonding over a shared love of Devo, Echo & the Bunnymen, They Might Be Giants, and Gary Numan. All of that and more squeaks into the Amoeba People sound.

"Everything from folk to hip-hop to electronic—it all sort of makes its way in," Hedgpeth says. "It's all stuff that, if you had a different band, you might not be able to pull those influences in quite as much."

The Amoeba People hold the rare distinction of being the house band at the Columbia Memorial Space Center, which happens to be the only science museum in the country that has a house band. After playing day shows to families at the Downey learning center, they then perform at dive bars in the evening. The guys are equally comfortable in both.

"We don't have to change anything," Hedgpeth says. "Maybe the energy levels. Every venue is different. Our audience is generally anywhere from 8 to 80. Whether it's filled with beer-guzzling adults or families on picnic blankets, it's all the same for us."

Hey, Orange County/Long Beach musicians & bands! Mail your music, contact info, high-res photos & impending show dates for possible review to: Locals Only, *OC Weekly*, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Or email your link to: localsonly@ocweekly.com.



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AN EVENING WITH CHRIS ISAAK: presented as part of the Bank of the West Summer Concert Series, 6 p.m., $65-$110. Hyatt Regency Newport Beach, 1107 Jamboree Rd., Newport Beach, (949) 729-1234; series.hyattconcerts.com.

BOSTYX—THE HITS OF BOSTON AND STYX: 8:30 p.m., $17.50. Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 492-9933; costamesaspeedway.net.

COLIN HAY: 8 p.m., $38. The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, Ste. C, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

DANIEL BONTE & THE BONA FIDE: 7 p.m., $15. The Parish at House of Blues, Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

FOR THE CULTURE: 7 p.m., $10. Chain Reaction, 1652 W. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim, (714) 635-6067; allages.com.

KATCHAFIRE: 8 p.m., $25. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

KEVIN WOOD: 8 p.m., free. The Library, 3418 E. Broadway, Long Beach, (562) 433-2393; thelibraryacoffeehouse.com.

PRETZEL LOGIC: 7:30 p.m., $15-$30. Spaghettini Rotisserie & Grill, 3005 Old Ranch Pkwy., Seal Beach, (562) 596-2199; spaghettini.com.

RJ: 11 p.m., $20. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; observatoryoc.com.

RON KOBAYASHI: 10 p.m., free. Bayside Restaurant, 900 Bayside Dr., Newport Beach, (949) 721-1222; baysiderestaurant.com.

SLIGHTLY STOOPID: 4:30 p.m., $27.50-$60. The Hangar, 100 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa.

TRIBAL THEORY: 7 p.m., $20. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

SATURDAY

BIG MONSTA: 7 p.m., $10. The Parish at House of Blues, Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

BOOTS & BIKINIS COUNTRY MUSIC BEACH PARTY: 4 p.m., free before 10 p.m.; bootsandbikinisoc.com. Baja Beach Cafe, 2332 W. Coast Hwy., Newport Beach, (949) 673-8444; bajabeachcafe.com.

DEAD KENNEDYS: 7 p.m., $25. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

EMO NIGHT BROOKLYN: 11 p.m., $10. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

HOT AUGUST NIGHT—A TRIBUTE TO NEIL DIAMOND: 8:30 p.m., $12-$20. Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 492-9933; costamesaspeedway.net.

CASH'D OUT—JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE: 8 p.m., $15. Gaslamp Restaurant & Bar, 6251 E. Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach, (562) 596-4718; thegaslamprestaurant.com.

LOS 5: 7 p.m., $10-$12. Chain Reaction, 1652 W. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim, (714) 635-6067; allages.com.

MISSING PERSONS: 8 p.m., $20. The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, Ste. C, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

STRANGELOVE/DEAD MAN'S PARTY: tributes to Depeche Mode and Oingo Boingo, 7:15 p.m., $15-$25. The Hangar, 100 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa.

SUNDAY

APOLLO BEBOP BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH: 8 a.m., free. The Gypsy Den, 125 N. Broadway Ave., Santa Ana, (714) 835-8840; gypsyden.com.

FULLY FULLWOOD REGGAE SUNDAYS: 3 p.m., $5. Don the Beachcomber, 16278 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach, (562) 592-1321; donthebeachcomber.com.

HOWARD COWLES: pop pianist, 2 p.m., free. Nixon Presidential Library & Museum, 18001 Yorba Linda Blvd., Yorba Linda, (714) 993-3393; nixonlibrary.gov.

METALACHI: 1 p.m., $12-$20. Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 492-9933; costamesaspeedway.net.

MICHELLE BRANCH: 7 p.m., $25. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

PEPE AGUILAR: 8:15 p.m., $50-$100. The Hangar, 100 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa.

TREVOR HALL: 8:30 p.m., $12-$25. Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 492-9933; costamesaspeedway.net.

MONDAY

DOUG LACY: 6 p.m., free. Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen, 1590 S. Disneyland Dr., Anaheim, (714) 776-5200; rbjazzkitchen.com.

KABOOM DRAG SHOW: 9 p.m., free. Que Sera, 1923 E. Seventh St., Long Beach, (562) 599-6170; queseralb.wix.com.

THE TOM KUBIS BIG BAND: 8 p.m., $10-$15. Don the Beachcomber, 16278 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach, (562) 592-1321; donthebeachcomber.com.

TUESDAY

BUDDY GUY: 8 p.m., $100. The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, Ste. C, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

JOHN MAYER: 7 p.m., $59-$967. 7 p.m., $99-$125. Honda Center, 2695 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim, (714) 704-2400; hondacenter.com.

PURPLE MOUNTAIN MAJESTIES: part of the Rising Stars Music Series, 5:30 p.m., free with festival admission ($8). Laguna Beach Festival of Arts, 650 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach, (949) 494-1145; foapom.com.

WEDNESDAY

BLACKBERRY SMOKE WITH THE CADILLAC THREE: 7 p.m., $25. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Ste. 337, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; houseofblues.com/anaheim.

DEREK BORDEAUX BAND: 7 p.m., free. Original Mike's, 100 S. Main St., Santa Ana, (714) 550-7764; originalmikes.com.

GAVIN DEGRAW; CALUM SCOTT: 7:30 p.m., $27.50-$57.50. The Hangar, 100 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa.

I AM KING—THE MICHAEL JACKSON EXPERIENCE: 8:30 p.m., $17.50-$20. Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 492-9933; costamesaspeedway.net.

LEVITATION ROOM & POST ANIMAL: 8 p.m., $10. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

MODERN DISCO AMBASSADORS: 10 p.m., $5. La Cave, 1695 Irvine Ave., Costa Mesa, (949) 646-7944; lacaverestaurant.com.

THURSDAY, JULY 27

ANDREW BLOOM: 7:30 p.m., $5. Mozambique, 1740 S. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach, (949) 715-7777; mozambiqueoc.com.

DOUG LACY: 6 p.m., free. Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen, 1590 S. Disneyland Dr., Anaheim, (714) 776-5200; rbjazzkitchen.com.

EMERY: 7 p.m., $7-$20. Chain Reaction, 1652 W. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim, (714) 635-6067; allages.com.

HERON OBLIVION; STEVE GUNN; JAMES ELKINGTON: 9 p.m., $15. Constellation Room at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; constellationroom.com.

JUSTIN MOORE; TYLER RICH: 7:30 p.m., $37.50-$70. The Hangar, 100 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa.

LOVELY BAD THINGS: 8 p.m., $7. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0039; wayfarercm.com.

LUKAS NELSON AND PROMISE OF THE REAL: 8 p.m., $20. The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano, Ste. C, San Juan Capistrano, (949) 496-8930; thecoachhouse.com.

MATT COSTA AND DAVID ROSALES: part of the OC Parks Summer Concert Series, 6 p.m., free. Irvine Regional Park, 1 Irvine Park Rd., Orange, (714) 973-6835.

WILD CHILD—A JIM MORRISON CELEBRATION: 8:30 p.m., $12-$20. Costa Mesa Speedway, 88 Fair Dr., Costa Mesa, (949) 492-9933; costamesaspeedway.net.

Come Again

SavageLove

» DAN SAVAGE

I'm a 35-year-old straight woman, recently married, and everything is great. But I have been having problems reaching orgasm. When we first started dating, I had them all the time. It was only after we got engaged that it became an issue. He is not doing anything differently, and he works hard to give me oral pleasure, last longer and include more foreplay. He's sexy and attractive and has a great working penis. I am very aroused when we have sex, but I just can't climax. It is weird because I used to very easily, and I still can when I masturbate. I have never been so in love before, and I have definitely never been with a man who is so good to me. Honestly, all of my previous boyfriends did not treat me that well, but I never had a problem having orgasms. My husband is willing to do whatever it takes, but it's been almost a year since I came during vaginal intercourse! Is this just a temporary problem that will fix itself?

My Orgasms Are Now Shy

"This is a temporary problem that will fix itself," says Dr. Meredith Chivers, an associate professor of psychology at Queen's University and a world-renowned sex researcher who has done—and is still doing—groundbreaking work on female sexuality, desire and arousal.

"And here's why it will fix itself," continues Chivers. "First, MOANS has enjoyed being orgasmic with her partner and previous partners. Second, even though she's had a hiatus in orgasms through vaginal intercourse, she is able to have orgasms when masturbating. Third, she describes no concerns with becoming sexually aroused physically and mentally. Fourth, MOANS has a great relationship, has good sexual communication and is sexually attracted to her partner. Fifth, what she's experiencing is a completely normal and expected variation in sexual functioning that probably relates to stress."

The orgasms you're not having right now—orgasms during PIV sex with your husband—the lack of which is causing you stress? Most likely the result of stress, MOANS, so stressing out about the situation will only make the problem worse.

"I wonder if the background stress of a big life change—getting married is among the top 10 most stressful life events—might be distracting or anxiety-provoking," says Chivers. "Absolutely normal if it were."

Distracting, anxiety-provoking thoughts can also make it harder to come.

"Being able to have an orgasm is about giving yourself over to pleasure in the moment," says Chivers. "Research on brain activation during orgasm suggests that a key feature is deactivation in parts of the brain associated with emotion and cognitive control. So difficulties reaching orgasm can arise from distracting, anxiety-provoking thoughts that wiggle their way in when you're really aroused, maybe on the edge, but just can't seem to make it over. They interfere with that deactivation."

Chivers' advice will be familiar to anyone with a daughter younger than 12: Let it go.

"Let go of working toward vaginal orgasm during sex," Chivers advises. "Take vaginal orgasm off the table for at least a month—you're allowed to do other things and come other ways, just not through vaginal-penile intercourse. Instead of working toward the goal of bringing back your vaginal orgasm, enjoy being with your sexy husband and experiment with other ways of sharing pleasure, and if the vaginal orgasms don't immediately come back, oh, well. There are, fortunately, many roads to Rome. Enjoy!"

My advice? Buy some stress-busting pot edibles if you're lucky enough to live in a state that has legal weed, MOANS, or make your own if you live in a suck-ass state that doesn't. And tell your husband to stop trying so hard—if his efforts are making you feel guilty, that's going to be hugely counterproductive.

But last word goes to Chivers: "If your vaginal orgasms don't return, and you're unhappy about that, consider connecting with a sex therapist in your area. In the USA, AASECT (AASECT.org) is a great resource for finding a therapist or counselor."

Follow Dr. Chivers on Twitter (@DrMLChivers).

I'm a straight man who recently moved in with a rich, straight friend. He sent me an email before I moved in letting me know he was in a femdom relationship. He was only telling me this, he said, because I might notice "small, subtle rituals meant to reinforce [their] D/s dynamic." If it bothered me, I shouldn't move in. Finding an affordable place in Central London is hard, so I told him I didn't mind. But I do. Their many "rituals" run the gamut from the subtle to the not-so-subtle: He can't sit on the furniture without her permission, which she grants with a little nod (subtle); when he buzzes her in, he has to wait by the door on his hands and knees and kiss her feet when she enters and keep at it until she tells him to stop (NOT SUBTLE!). She's normal with me—she doesn't attempt to order me around—but these "rituals" make me uncomfortable, and I worry they're getting off from my witnessing them.

Rituals Often Observed Mortifying In Extreme

His apartment, his rules—or her rules, actually. If you don't want to witness the shit your rich, submissive friend with the great apartment warned you about before you moved in, ROOMIE, you'll have to move your ass out.

I know a teenager in a theater production who is receiving inappropriate advances from an older member of the cast. Her refusals are met with aggression and threats that he'll make a scene, ruining the show for everyone. I believe that fear is causing her to follow through with things she isn't interested in or comfortable with. What advice would you have on how she gets out of this situation? She's otherwise enjoying the theater experience.

Theatrical Harassment Really Enrages Adult Torontonian

The awesome band Whitehorse invited me to Toronto to celebrate their new album, *Panther In the Dollhouse*, which features songs inspired by sex-workers'-rights activists and—*blushing*—the *Savage Lovecast*. (Luke and Melissa and the band rehearsed and played the *Savage Lovecast* theme live, which was magical.) Anyway, THREAT, I answered your question during the show, and I kindasorta jumped down your throat. I thought you were a member of the theater company and an eyewitness—and passive bystander—to this harassment. ("You ask what this kid can do about this," I recall saying, "but the better question is why haven't you done something about it?")

But there was nothing in your question to indicate you were an eyewitness and a passive bystander, THREAT, which I didn't realize until rereading your question after the show. Sigh. I have more time to digest the questions that appear in the column or on the podcast, and my copy editor (peace be upon her) and the tech-savvy at-risk youth live to point out a detail I may have missed or gotten wrong, prompting me to rewrite or rerecord an answer. But I'm on my own at live shows—no copy editor, no TSARY, no net—upping the odds of a screwup. My apologies, THREAT.

But even if you're not an eyewitness, THREAT, there are still a few things you can do. First, keep listening to your friend. In addition to offering her your moral support, encourage her to speak to the director of the play and the artistic director of the theater. This fucking creep needs to be fired—and if the people running the show are made aware of the situation and don't act, they need to be held accountable. A detailed Facebook post brought to the attention of the local media should do the trick. Hopefully it won't come to that, THREAT, but let me know if it does. Because I'm happy to help make that Facebook post go viral.

On the Lovecast *(savagelovecast.com), Amanda Marcotte on Game of Thrones. Contact Dan via email at mail@savagelove.net, follow him on Twitter (@fakedansavage), and visit ITMFA.org.*

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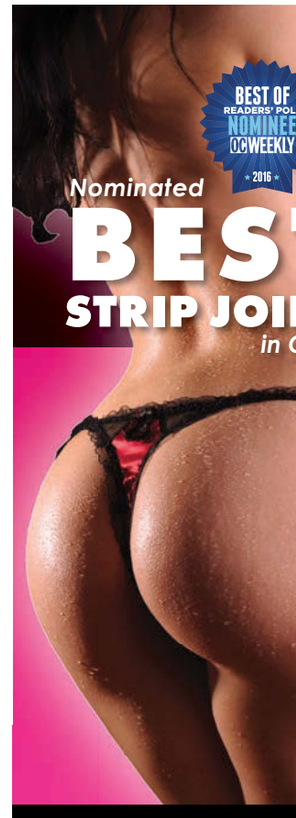

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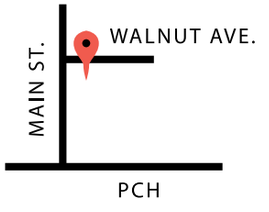

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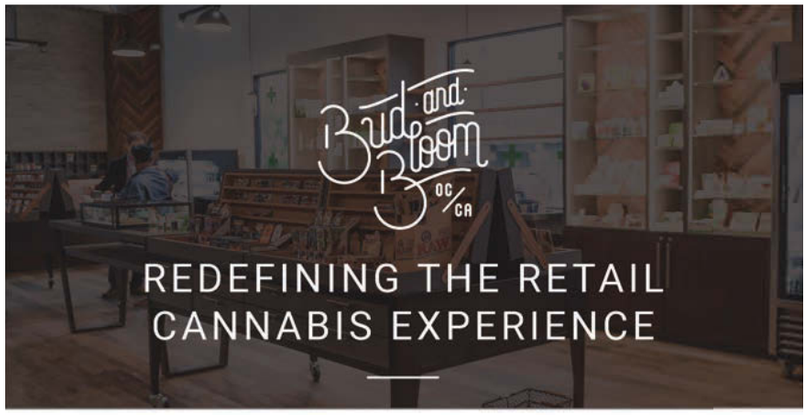

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Toke of the Week

» ROBERT FLORES

LIV Clear Disposable Vape Pen

ROBERT FLORES

With summer comes many outdoor activities: going to the beach, hiking, visiting parks and, of course, the OC Fair. The annual monthlong event ends up costing more than Disneyland, but does Mickey offer fried Oreos or huge slabs of smoked meats? Oh, hell NO! That's why we go to the Fair—and that's why I was looking for a disposable vape pen. They are discreet and convenient, and if you need to ditch it, you're only out $20.

New Generation dispensary in SanTana carries two disposable pens, of which I chose the LIV Clear. The pen is maybe 3 inches long, a perfect size for sneaking a toke here and there. Among the wide variety of vape cartridges are strains of indica, sativa and hybrids; I picked the Khalifa Kush indica because I want to enjoy a good high while walking the Fair, listening to all the live bands and people-watching. The cannabis oil is 100 percent solvent-free, and the cartridge has an LED light that will blink once the perfect dosage has been administered. After about four hits, you can expect to get buzzed; keep hitting the vape, and you'll definitely get very stoned.

Before venturing to the OC Fairgrounds, I decided to try out the pen, taking it everywhere: to my favorite dive bar, to the movies and on walks. I've owned a few of these types of disposable pens, and by far the LIV Clear is the best! The price is right, the high is legit, and it's discreet AF.

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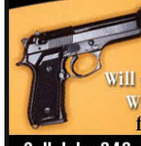
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Develop IT solutions for bus. sys.; MS in CIS or equiv., or BS or equiv. + 5 yrs exp. in CIS reqid; Send resume to Solomon America, Inc. 17151 Newhope St., # 201, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Stew Miller Painting: Painter Specialize in quality painting projects; interior and exterior painting. Apply coats of paint, enamel, varnish, or lacquer to residential and commercial structures. Must read painting order from supervisor and choose previously mixed paints. Usage of scraper, blowtorch, wire brush, paint remover, putty knife, caulking and spray gun, paint rollers and brushes is necessary. 2yrs experience required. Submit resumes to: 27102 Huerta, Mission Viejo Ca 92692

MARKET RESEARCH ANALYST, Wireless Contracts: Research market conditions in wireless phone contracts. Determine methods, procedures to gather data. Contact relevant persons, companies to project demands & tech. trends. Gather data on competitors. Examine, analyze data with statistical & Excel programs to make sales & marketing forecast. Prepare reports, suggest marketing strategies. Send ad & resume to President, IIG Wireless, Inc. 13247 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843.

services

195 Position Wanted

Marketing Specialist:
2 yrs wk exp req'd. Send resumes to: JN Corp, 43 Tesla, Irvine, CA 92618, Attn: D. No.

Lemonlight Media Inc. seeks Graphic Designer. BA/BS & 24 mths. exp. reqd. Design graphics for clients' marketing materials. Work site: Marina Del Rey, CA. Mail resumes to 4063A Glencoe Avenue, Marina del Rey, CA 90292.

Interested candidates send resume to: Google Inc., PO Box 26184 San Francisco, CA 94126 Attn: A. Johnson. Please reference job # below:
Software Engineer (Irvine, CA) Design, develop, modify, &/or test software needed for various Google projects. #1615.7158 Exp Incl: C++, Java, JavaScript, or HTML; Database; Data mining or machine leaning; Obj orient analysis & des; & A.I. or nat lang process.

Dental Operations Specialist position in Irvine, CA: Must evaluate operational practices; oversee operational plans & budgets for a dental laboratory; assess productivity; ensure technicians understand work orders; monitor marketing plans; communicate w/ dental clients. Must have an MBA. Must have knowl in dentistry. Resumes to Dental Digital Design, Inc 17781 Sky Park Circle, Ste D, Irvine, CA 92614.

Computer Programmer: B.S.C.S. req'd. Send resumes to: Polaris E-Commerce, Inc., 1941 E. Occidental St., Santa Ana, CA 92705, Attn: I. Hwang.

Interested candidates send resume to: Google Inc., PO Box 26184 San Francisco, CA 94126 Attn: A. Johnson. Please reference job # below: Software Engineer (Irvine, CA) Design, develop, modify, &/or test software needed for various Google projects. #1615.21807 Exp Incl: Java; distr sys; low-latency & high-throughput apps; databases, data model'g, & indexg; sw dsgn patts & obj orient dsgn; big data & parallel data process frameworks, MapReduce; & prob solv skills & data structures.

Application Engineer sought by Standard Cable USA Inc. to design mechanical & electromechanical outlay for fabrication of wires, cables, power cords, etc. Job site: Rancho Santa Margarita, CA. Resume to 23126 Arroyo Vista Ave., Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688. Attn. Ann Tai

services

195 Position Wanted

Database Administrator: Develop IT solutions for bus. sys.; MS in CIS or equiv., or BS or equiv. + 5 yrs exp. in CIS req'd; Send resume to Solomon America, Inc. 17151 Newhope St., # 201, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Senior Software Engineer, Research Affiliates, Newport Beach, CA: Design, develop, & test custom software solutions for Microsoft Dynamics CRM, Microsoft Sharepoint & Microsoft SSIS platforms. Collect business reqs. & develop functional specs. Represent limitations of software platforms. Translate functional specs. into technical specs. & designs. Write efficient code using the technology selected for the project. Perform unit tests on custom solutions. Complete integration tests on customs solutions. Troubleshoot & debug problems in code and software releases. Provide off-hours technical support as needed. Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems, Computer Engineering or related field & 6 yrs. exp. w/ software development in Microsoft Visual C#, JavaScript, Transact-SQL, Microsoft.NET framework, Microsoft Dynamics CRM, Microsoft Sharepoint, & Microsoft SSIS. Exp. may be gained concurrently. Email resume to humancapital@rallc.com. No calls.

Sales Engineer: Oversee product dev't process & perform final product inspec to identify tech issues b/f product launch; prepare sales eng reports, etc. Req: BS in Polymer Science & Eng; must have taken "Polymerization Chemistry" & "Polymerization Reaction Engineering" courses. Send resume to:MMD Int'l, Inc. Attn: Woo Suh. 2500 W. Orangethorpe Ave. # 122 Fullerton, CA 92833

PCB Design Engr (Job code: PDE-SB) Design & layout complex, multi-layer PCBs using Altium 16. Reqs BS+2yrs exp. Mail resumes to Boundary Devices, Attn: HR, 21072 Bake Pkwy, Ste 100, Lake Forest, CA 92630. Must ref job title & code

Sr. SAP MM Consultant, MS deg. in CIS, IT, MIS or related & 1 yr exp. Exp. in Supply Chain Optimization. Skills: SAP MM, Tableau Reporting & Analysis ,VBA, SQL, MS Visio, Six Sigma Methodology. Travel &/or reloc. throughout the US req'd. Mail resume to Morris & Willner Partners, Inc., 201 Sandpointe Ave, Ste. 200, Santa Ana, CA, 92707

services

195 Position Wanted

Restaurant General Mgr: Responsible for managing overall day-to-day operation & supervision of entire staff, ensure high level of customer satisfaction, etc. Req:BS in Hospitality Mgmt; must have taken "Hospitality Mktg Mgmt" and "Hospitality Industry Managerial Accounting" courses. Send resume to:Two Two Fried Chicken, Inc.Attn: James Ha
1707 E. Del Amo Blvd.
Carson, CA 90746

Mechanical Engineer: F/T. Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering, Resume to: Bi-Search International, Inc. 17750 Gillette Ave. Irvine, CA 92614.

Marketing Specialist (Irvine, CA)Research demographics/age of potential clients & analyze data for market targeting; Act as liaison between company and clients, mainly within Asian communities in Orange County; Perform data collection/research on current & future market trends. 40hrs/wk Bachelor in Business Economics or related req'd. Resume to US Arts & Design, inc. Attn: Whitney Sheu 690 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620

Director of Reimbursement Management
Prime Healthcare Anaheim,LLC d/b/a West Anaheim Medical Center in Anaheim, CA seeks a Director of Reimbursement Management to be responsible for day-to-day management of coding, CDI, HIM & reimbursement issues. Travel required throughout Orange County, CA on a weekly basis. Mail your resume with a copy of this ad to Aditya Stanam, 3300 E. Guasti Road, Ontario, CA 91761.

Commercial Loan Officer: Develop core Commercial loan customers & relationships. Interview loan applicants and evaluates credit data, cash flow, financial statements, and collateral to determine their credit worthiness. Evaluate and/or recommend approval of commercial loans. Service the loan from loan closing to the date of loan payoff; ensures customer satisfaction throughout the life of the loans, resolving problems as they arise; bachelor in business, finance, economics or related field reqd; 40hrs/wk; Work location is 8942 Garden Grove Blvd., #109A, Garden Grove, CA 92844, resume to Hanin Federal Credit Union, 3700 Wilshire Blvd. #104, Los Angeles, CA 90010.

services

195 Position Wanted

Graphic Designer
Apply by mail only to Primevalue Technology Corp., 1590 N. Batavia St., #2, Orange, CA 92867, attn. President.

Sr. Auditor: conduct audit, review & prepare reports; BA/BS in accounting; 40hrs/wk; Apply to Hall & Company CPAs and Consultants, Inc. Attn: HR, 111 Pacifica, Ste. 300, Irvine, CA 92618.

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER
Full-service printer seeks a f/t financial controller. Req. Master degree in accounting with 1 yr prior accounting experience, plus experience using Microsoft Office Suite. Must also have passed all four CPA examinations. Jobsite: Irvine CA. Send resume to: Tony Liu, Manager, R.D. Yin, Inc., 17352 Murphy Ave., Irvine, CA 92614.

Chief Engineer (Irvine, CA). Engineering mgt of design and production mechanical engineering heat exchange units for manufacturing of cans. M.S. Mechanical Engineering & 24 months exp. Exp. to include heat exchange units, Fluent, Ansys, & Solidworks. Resume to Mitchell Joseph, Joseph Manufacturing Company, 1711 Langley Ave., Irvine, CA 92614.

Market Research Analyst: F/T. BA in Business Admin. or related. Resume to: Bi-Search International, Inc. 17750 Gillette Ave. Irvine, CA 92614.

Ericsson Inc., Engineer-Services RF Irvine, CA - perform radio network design, RF tuning, optimization, & other RF related service activities for high capacity wireless networks. Mail resume Ericsson Inc. 6300 Legacy Dr, R1-C12, Plano, TX 75024; ID# 17-CA-681.

Graphic Designer
Apply by mail only to Made By Johnny Group, Inc., 1751 E. Del Amo Blvd., Carson, CA 90746, attn. President.

Chemical Engineer Recon Engineering & Construction, Inc. is hiring in Los Alamitos. Must have at least 2 years of progressive experience as a Chemical Engineer. Assess chemical equipment and processes to improve performance while ensuring compliance with safety and environmental regulations. Full-time. Mail Resume to P.O. Box 93120, Long Beach, CA 90809

Marketing Specialist (Irvine, CA)Research demographics/age of potential clients & analyze data for market targeting; Act as liaison between company and clients, mainly within Asian communities in Orange County; Perform data collection/research on current & future market trends. 40hrs/wk Bachelor in Business Economics or related req'd. Resume to US Arts & Design, Inc. Attn: Whitney Sheu 690 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620

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